

Stoking 'Terror'

DIAA HADID
EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Syria's foreign minister brought his regime's case before the world Monday, accusing the U.S. and its allies of promoting "terrorism" and blaming everyone from neighbors and extremists to the media for escalating the war — except the Syrian government.

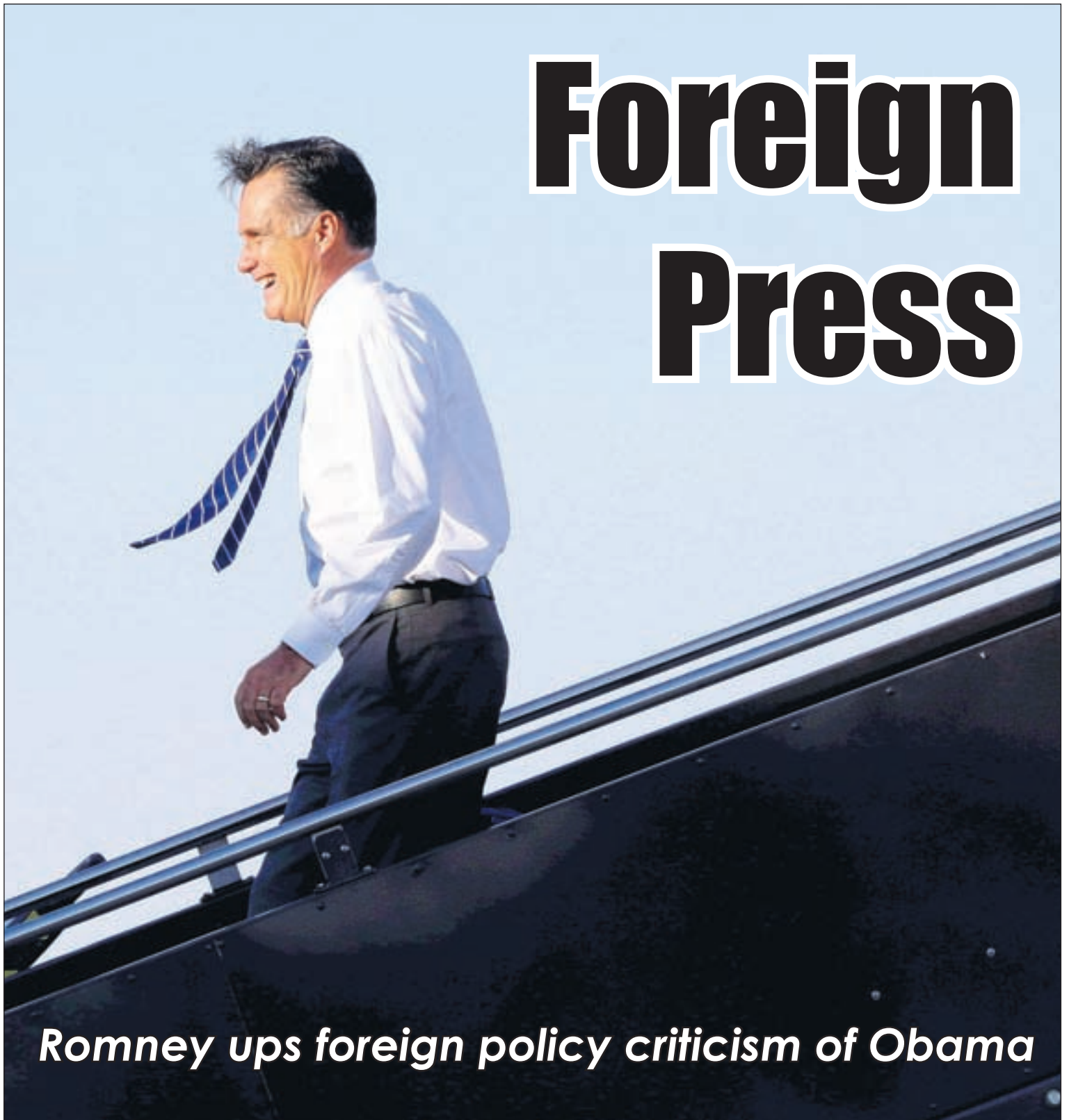
Addressing ministers and diplomats from the United Nation's 193 member states as fighting spread in the historic Old City of Aleppo, Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem lashed



Walid Moallem, Foreign Minister of Syria, approaches the podium to address the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012.
(AP Photo/Jason DeCrow)

out at calls in Washington and in Arab and European capitals for Syrian President Bashar Assad to step down as interference in Syria's domestic affairs. Al-Moallem accused extremists of prolonging the crisis and denounced countries such as the U.S., Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey for supporting the opposition's "terrorism." "This terrorism which is externally supported is accompanied by unprecedented media provocation based on igniting religious extremism sponsored by well-known states in the region," he told the U.N. General Assembly.

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Foreign Press

Romney ups foreign policy criticism of Obama

Republican presidential candidate and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney steps off his campaign plane in Denver, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

BURLINGTON, Massachusetts (AP) — Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney is trying to prove his own readiness to be commander in chief and force President Barack Obama to answer for turmoil in places like Libya, where terrorists killed the U.S. ambassador on the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks. Romney advisers argue

that the stepped-up foreign policy criticism dovetails with a key piece of his central argument: Obama is in over his head, and the country will be worse off if he gets a second term. Foreign policy is the latest in a series of political openings that Romney has tried to exploit in recent weeks, as he has fallen behind the president in polls both

in key battleground state. National surveys show the president ahead in a tight contest. In recent weeks, Romney also has castigated Obama on the coal industry, defense cuts, wealth redistribution and the president's comment that it's not possible to change Washington from the inside. Romney's intense focus on

foreign policy is intended to undercut what the Obama campaign has seen as the president's ironclad international affairs credentials — and send a message to voters that they can trust the Republican on foreign policy despite limited experience.

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North Korea:

Spark could set off nuclear war

EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) —

A North Korean minister lashed out at the United States on Monday, saying its "hostile" policy has left

to occupy the entire Korean peninsula — divided between the communist North and democratic South — and "use it as a stepping stone for realizing its strategy of dominating

While the government aims to build "a prosperous and powerful state," Pak said, the North was right to build a strong military and "war deterrent" as a "mighty weapon" to respond im-



North Korean Deputy Vice Minister Pak Kil Yon addresses the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly at U.N. headquarters Monday, Oct. 1, 2012.

the Korean peninsula a spark away from a nuclear war. Vice Foreign Minister Pak Kil Yon told the U.N. General Assembly that the Koreas have become "the world's most dangerous hotspot" and blamed the "hostile" policy of the United States toward North Korea. Pak said "the vicious cycle of confrontation and aggravation of tension is an ongoing phenomenon on the Korean peninsula, which has become the world's most dangerous hotspot where a spark of fire could set off a thermonuclear war." Pak also accused the United States of seeking to use force

the whole of Asia."

He said the United States has finalized scenarios for a new Korean War and "is waiting for a chance to implement them." In an apparent reference to North Korea's nuclear arsenal and massive military, Pak said the nation's "patience and self-defensive war deterrent," have prevented U.S. military provocations "from turning into an all-out war on the Korean peninsula." "However, the DPRK's patience does not mean it is unlimited," he warned, using the initials of the country's official name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

mediately to provocations "and confront the war of aggression with a just war of reunifying the country." Pak warned that "not a single problem including the nuclear issue of the Korean peninsula can be resolved without the elimination of the hostile policy of the United States, which regards the DPRK as a target of hostility and tries to stifle it at any cost." He lamented that the atmosphere of reconciliation spawned by the historic North-South summit meeting at the dawn of the new century has deteriorated to the current "worst state" of inter-Korean relations. □

Syrian minister accuses US of stoking 'terrorism'

Continued from front

Members of the opposition said it was common knowledge that these neighboring Arab countries were supporting and financing the rebels, but said the Assad government had brought it upon itself after cracking down on protests that began peacefully 18 months ago.

"It is the regime's mindless, brutal and criminal, military crackdown that pushed the Syrian people to ask for help from the international community, from NATO and from the devil himself if necessary to protect them," Haitham Manna, a Paris-based veteran Syrian dissident who heads the external branch of the National Coordination Body opposition group, told The Associated Press.

Al-Moallem's speech followed his meeting with Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in which the U.N. chief "raised in the strongest terms the continued killings, massive destruction, human rights abuses, and aerial and artillery attacks committed by the government," according to a statement by his press office. "He stressed that it was the Syrian people who were being killed every day, and appealed to the Government of Syria to show compassion to its own people."

The Syrian foreign minister in his address invited the opposition to "work together to stop the shedding of Syrian blood" and said that a Syrian-led dialogue could produce a "more pluralistic

and democratic" country.

The opposition called the speech a classic case of regime "propaganda," and dismissed his calls for dialogue as not genuine.

"While the brutal and delusional Syrian regime continues to pay lip service to diplomacy, its actions over the past 18 months have demonstrated beyond any doubt that they have no interest in meaningful reform or dialogue" Radwan Ziadeh, a U.S.-based spokesman for the chief opposition group, the Syrian National Council, said in a statement.

Underscoring how deeply the Syrian foreign minister felt that conspiratorial hands were playing in the war-ridden country, he said that armed groups were inciting civilians in border areas to flee to neighboring countries "to fabricate a refugee crisis."

Up to 3,000 Syrians are leaving the country every day, said Vincent Cochetel of the U.N. refugee agency. Some 300,000 Syrians are registered, or waiting to register with the U.N. in Turkey, Jordan, Iraq and Lebanon and the agency expects the number to grow to 700,000 by the year's end.

Some regional and international parties, al-Moallem said, are seeking to exploit the conflict and create "a state of instability to ensure the need for foreign interference."

Al-Moallem called for a Syrian-led dialogue to agree on a roadmap to "a more pluralistic and democratic Syria." □

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Venezuela's President Hugo Chavez waves to supporters during a stop of a campaign caravan in Sabaneta, Venezuela, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012. Venezuela's presidential election is scheduled for Oct. 7. At left Venezuela's Foreign Affairs Minister Nicolas Maduro. (AP Photo/Rodrigo Abd)

Chavez vowing stronger socialist drive, changes

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez pledged to redouble his efforts to create a socialist system if re-elected in Sunday's election, saying the next six-year term would bring bigger changes. Since taking office in 1999, Chavez has increased the government's role in the economy and has nationalized private businesses including cement plants, banks and retail stores. He has also used the country's oil wealth to bankroll social programs including cash benefits for poor families and state-run grocery stores. "We've laid the foundations of 21st century socialism and today we launch, well, the second cycle,"

Chavez said. "We'll launch the second socialist cycle, from 2013 to 2019, with much more strength." Chavez spoke while rallying a crowd in his native town of Sabaneta in the country's rural western plains. He nostalgically recalled selling sweets in the town plaza as a boy, and he broke into song while addressing supporters. He waved to supporters from an open jeep on the way to another town. Rival candidate Henrique Capriles has ridiculed Chavez for claiming to pursue socialist policies, saying the government has failed to solve basic problems such as a soaring murder rate, sporadic blackouts and poorly equipped hospitals. □

Romney ups foreign policy criticism

Continued from front

To that end, Romney's advisers said he's planning a major foreign policy speech, to be delivered some time after Wednesday's debate. Yet, there's a disconnect between what Romney and his team are talking about nationally and what he is running on in the states, where his TV advertising is largely focused on the economy and jobs — voters' No. 1 issue — ahead of Wednesday's presidential debate. All that's leaving Romney open to criticism that his campaign is searching for a winning pitch just one month before the election and with voting under way in many states. "Our country seems to be at the mercy of events rather than shaping them. We're not moving them in a direction that protects our people or our allies. And that's dangerous," Romney wrote in a column published Monday in the Wall Street Journal. Romney running mate Paul Ryan piled on, telling radio host Laura Ingraham that Obama's administration hasn't given the public the full story on the circumstances that led to the death of U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens in Benghazi. "It's really indicative of a broader failure of this administration's foreign policy and the crisis that is taking place across the Middle East," Ryan said. "It is clear

the administration's policy unraveled."

The Obama campaign reacted dismissively, noting that Osama bin Laden is dead and arguing that the Obama administration has taken a hard line on Iran to dissuade it from creating a nuclear weapon.

"I don't think the American people are looking for chest thumping and empty

and irresponsible on foreign policy issues every time he has had an opportunity to speak to them," Psaki told reporters in Henderson, Nevada, where Obama is preparing for the debate. White House press secretary Jay Carney said Romney's op-ed "contains no specifics or an alternative," adding that most of the positions Romney was ad-



Republican presidential candidate and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney laughs as he talks with senior advisers on his campaign plane en route to Denver, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012. (AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

rhetoric and that's really what we're hearing from the Romney-Ryan team," campaign spokeswoman Jen Psaki said. She said Romney's opinion piece lacks "a real vision for leading the country as commander in chief." "There is no op-ed or no speech which we've heard he may or may not give at some point that is going to change the view of the American people that he has been reckless, erratic

vocating "are no different from what the president is actually doing." One possible exception is Iran, Carney said, where Romney appears to oppose U.S. policy of economic sanctions and diplomatic isolation. "The alternative is war," Carney said. "As the president has said, if Gov. Romney and other critics are advocating that position (war against Iran), they ought to say so clearly." □

20 injured in CA train crash

GOSIA WOZNIACKA

Associated Press

HANFORD, California (AP) — Two cars and the locomotive of an Amtrak train carrying about 169 passengers derailed Monday after colliding with a big rig truck in California's Central Valley, authorities said.

At least 20 passengers suffered minor to moderate injuries, authorities said. The crash occurred when the driver of the big rig carrying cotton trash failed to yield and hit the train, authorities said.

The impact pushed the two passenger cars and the locomotive off the tracks south of Hanford, a farming town.

The train traveled about 600 feet (180 meters) after the collision before hitting a switchback and derailling, according to California Patrol Officer Scott Harris.

The crash occurred at a crossing that was equipped with control gates, Putnam

said.

The injuries to passengers were described as bumps, bruises, scrapes and possibly broken bones by Kings County Assistant Sheriff Dave Putnam.

Eight of the injured passengers were taken to Adventist Medical Center in Hanford and five more were en

route, said hospital spokeswoman Christine Pickering.

Four additional injured passengers were taken to nearby Adventist Medical Center in Selma.

The train was on its way from Oakland to Bakersfield, according to Amtrak. It had four rail cars and a locomotive.



Emergency personnel respond to the scene of a train derailment where authorities say at least 20 passengers suffered minor to moderate injuries when a big rig truck collided with a south-bound Amtrak train in the central valley Monday, Oct. 1, 2012 in Hanford, Calif.

(AP Photo/Gary Kazanjian)

\$2 million in gems, gold stolen from California mine museum

MARIPOSA, California (AP) — California investigators searched Monday for thieves who made off with an estimated \$2 million in

with the biggest prize of all — the nearly 14-pound (6.35-kilogram) Fricot Nugget, a giant crystalline gold mass unearthed in the Gold

swarmed the museum but were unable to nab the thieves. At least two robbers wearing hoods and armed with pickaxes threatened workers during the heist Friday at the California Mining and Minerals Museum in Mariposa, the California Highway Patrol said.

No suspects have been identified.

Authorities said the unique pieces taken would be easily identified, which could make it difficult for the robbers to sell them.

"It is uncommon for most citizens to possess such minerals," the CHP said in a statement.

It was the second heist this year of rare, valuable metals in Northern California. In February, thieves made off with large chunks of gold that were on display in a Siskiyou County courthouse.

Investigators were trying to determine if there is a connection between the two heists.



The California State Mining and Mineral Museum is shown in Mariposa, Calif. Authorities say thieves made off with an estimated \$2 million in gold and precious gems during the armed robbery of a state mineral and mining museum Friday in the Central Valley.

(AP Photo/John Palmer)

precious gems and gold from a Central Valley museum during a brazen daytime robbery.

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During their attempt to grab the rock, the robbers triggered an alarm that alerted authorities who

U.S. Briefs

N.Y. AG sues JPMorgan over Bear Stearns securities fraud

NEW YORK (AP) — The New York attorney general's office has hit JPMorgan Chase with a civil lawsuit, alleging that Bear Stearns perpetrated massive fraud related to residential mortgage-backed securities that it sold prior to its 2008 collapse and subsequent sale to the New York bank. The suit is the first to be filed under the auspices of the RMBS Working Group, set up by President Barack Obama to investigate and prosecute alleged misconduct that contributed to the financial crisis. NY AG Eric T. Schneiderman alleges that Bear Stearns led investors to believe that the loans in its RMBS portfolio had been carefully evaluated and would be continuously monitored. But Schneiderman alleges that Bear Stearns failed to do either. JPMorgan Chase & Co. spokesman Joseph Evangelisti says the bank intends to contest the allegations.

Jury seated in MN terror trial

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A jury of 10 women and six men has been chosen to hear the case of a Minnesota man accused of helping to send U.S. men to fight for a terror group in Somalia. Mahamud Said Omar faces five terror-related counts at his federal trial in Minneapolis. Prosecutors say he encouraged young men to fight for al-Shabab which has been linked to al-Qaida. They also say he helped some men get airline tickets and helped pay for weapons. Omar has said he's innocent. His attorney says he's never lifted a hand against the U.S. Minneapolis has the United States' largest population of Somali immigrants. Opening statements are planned for Tuesday.

NY indictment: Madoff fraud stretched all the way to 1970s

NEW YORK (AP) — New York prosecutors say the multi-billion-dollar fraud carried out by Wall Street swindler Bernard Madoff began as far back as the early 1970s. The revelation comes in a rewritten indictment boosting charges against four long-time employees of the investment firm Madoff ran from his Manhattan offices. A November 2010 indictment alleged a conspiracy to defraud Madoff's clients began in 1992. The newly written indictment was revealed Monday. It adds new charges of bank fraud and new tax offenses to several people who worked with Madoff. Authorities say thousands of investors lost roughly \$20 billion in the fraud as Madoff failed to put their money into markets. Madoff pleaded guilty to fraud charges and is serving a 150-year prison sentence in Butner, North Carolina.

Obama will designate Cesar Chavez home as monument

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a move aimed at shoring up support from Hispanic and progressive voters, President Barack Obama will designate the California home of labor leader Cesar Chavez as a national monument. Obama will establish the Cesar E. Chavez National Monument in Keene, California, during a campaign swing through California next week. The property is known as La Paz, short for Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz, or Our Lady Queen of Peace. It served as national headquarters of the United Farm Workers labor union, as well as Chavez's home, from the early 1970s until his death in 1993. Obama says in a statement that Chavez "gave a voice to poor and disenfranchised workers everywhere" and that La Paz was at the center of significant civil rights events.

White House says thwarted cyberattack

JIM KUHNHENN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House is acknowledging an attempt to infiltrate its computer system, but says it thwarted the effort and that no classified networks were threatened. White House spokesman Jay Carney told reporters the White House is equipped with mitigation measures that identified the attack, isolated it and prevented its spread. He said there was no indication that any data was removed.

"There are distinctions between those networks that contain classified information and those that don't, and the attack was against an unclassified network," Carney said.

Carney described the attack as "spear-phishing" and said such efforts against government computer systems are "not infrequent." Carney spoke

in Henderson, Nevada, where President Barack Obama is preparing for his first debate against rival Mitt Romney on Wednesday. "Phishing" is a tactic that involves sending an email that falsely claims to be from a legitimate enterprise in an attempt to trick the user into turning over information. Last year, Google Inc. blamed computer hackers in China for a phishing effort against Gmail accounts of several hundred people, including senior U.S. government officials and military personnel. Last November, senior U.S. intelligence officials for the first time publicly accused China of systematically stealing American high-tech data for its own national economic gain.

The White House would not say whether the recent attack was linked to China. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, during a visit to China last month, raised

the subject of China-based cyberattacks against American companies and the government.

News of the most recent attack came as the Obama administration is preparing an executive order with new rules to protect U.S. computer systems. After Congress failed this summer to pass a comprehensive cybersecurity bill, the White House said it would use executive branch authorities to improve the nation's computer security, especially for networks tied to essential U.S. industries, such as electric grids, water plants, and banks.

An initial draft of the order included provisions for voluntary cybersecurity standards for companies, a special council run by the Homeland Security Department and a review to determine if existing cybersecurity regulations are adequate.

But by issuing the executive



White House Press Secretary Jay Carney speaks at the White House in Washington. Carney told reporters the White House is acknowledging an attempt to infiltrate its computer system, but says it thwarted the effort and that no classified networks were threatened.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

order just weeks before the election, the White House risks complaints that President Barack Obama is anti-business from Republicans and the same pro-business groups that killed the legis-

lation on Capitol Hill. They opposed a Senate bill that they said could lead to costly rules and regulations that would burden companies without reducing the risks. □

Sailors await resolution in Colombia prostitution scandal

LOLITA C. BALDOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Six months after members of the U.S. military and the Secret Service were embroiled in a prostitution scandal in Colombia, two Navy sailors have been stripped of their security clearances and pulled off their regular jobs, but they have yet to be charged.

U.S. Southern Command says the investigation surrounding the two sailors is still going on, but a lawyer for one of the sailors says it shouldn't take this long to reach a decision. Charges were read against all the other military members allegedly involved two months ago. The lawyer is arguing that the sailor, David Hawley, was not around at the time that Secret Service and other members of the U.S. military were supposedly soliciting prostitutes in Cartagena. Instead, Hawley, says he was in a different hotel and is complaining that he is being punished and denied a promotion without ever be-

ing charged. "This is not a complex case that requires months and month of investigation," Hawley's lawyer, Jeremiah Sullivan, told The Associated Press Monday. Sullivan said that Hawley, a decorated Navy petty officer from Detroit, wants to return to the battlefield and "should not be picking weeds at his command. His

immediate chain of command will put him back to work, but are caught up in the political red tape."

Of the dozen military members initially implicated, seven Army soldiers and two Marines received administrative punishments for what was described as misconduct, and one Air Force member was

cleared. Three of the soldiers declined the administrative punishments and have requested courts martial, which would give them a public trial to contest the charges.

Col. Greg Julian, spokesman for U.S. Southern Command, said only that the

matter is still under investigation. In a letter to Sen. Carl Levin, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sullivan said that Hawley "is unjustifiably suffering the collateral damage from the misconduct of the Secret Service."

□

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Justices begin new term with a human rights argument encore

ADAM LIPTAK

© 2012 New York Times
WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court opened its new term Monday with an encore, hearing arguments in an important human rights case it first considered in February.

The question then was whether federal courts have jurisdiction to hear lawsuits against corporations said to have committed human rights abuses abroad.

But it quickly became clear that some of the justices were interested in addressing a broader question.

"What business does a case like that have in the courts of the United States?" Justice Samuel A. Alito Jr. asked at the argument in February. "There's no connection to the United States whatsoever."

Six days later, the court issued an order calling for new briefs and a reargument on that larger question of whether such suits are proper if they involve corporations or not. The last time the court asked for a second set of arguments was in 2009, in the Citizens United campaign finance case.

The human rights case, *Kiobel v. Royal Dutch Petroleum Co.*, No. 10-1491, was brought by 12 Nigerian plaintiffs who said the defendants, English and Dutch oil companies, had been complicit in torture and executions committed by the Abacha dictatorship in Nigeria.

They said their case could be brought in the U.S. because of the Alien Tort Statute, a 1789 law that allows federal courts to hear "any civil action by an alien for a tort only, committed in violation of the law of nations

theory hear suits over claims that U.S. companies committed human rights abuses in the U.S.

Hoffman said that was possible.

Kathleen M. Sullivan, a lawyer for the defendants, said



A facade covers the Supreme Court during renovations in Washington, Oct. 1, 2012. The Supreme Court opened its new term on Monday, hearing arguments in a human rights case it first considered in February.

(Luke Sharrett/The New York Times)

or a treaty of the United States."

A majority of the justices Monday seemed prepared to limit the reach of that law, but there was no apparent consensus on how to do so.

The plaintiffs' lawyer, Paul L. Hoffman, told the justices that there were good reasons to allow the case to be heard in a U.S. court. His clients live in the U.S., having received asylum, and the companies do business here, he said.

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy wondered if courts abroad could on that same

Congress was free to enact a broader law than the one it passed in 1789. But she said that law did not allow suits over conduct that took place abroad.

In *Sosa v. Alvarez-Machain* in 2004, the Supreme Court left the door open to some claims under the law, as long as they involved violations of international norms with "definite content and acceptance among civilized nations" like piracy and attacks on ambassadors.

Justice Stephen G. Breyer said it was a small step from piracy to torture and genocide. □

Immigrant advocates blast Gov. Brown vetoes in U.S.

AMY TAXIN

Associated Press

SANTA ANA, California (AP) — Gov. Jerry Brown may have approved a bill allowing some illegal immigrants to get driver's licenses, but it wasn't good enough for some immigrant advocates.

Instead of cheering the bill, they said Monday it was an easy choice for Brown and blasted his vetoes of other measures that would have expanded the rights of nannies and housecleaners and protected some illegal immigrants from deportation.

Immigrant advocates said Brown's support of the bill to offer driver's licenses to young immigrants who qualify for two-year federal work permits doesn't have the far-reaching impact that backing the other measures could have had.

They said signing those bills could have protected some illegal immigrants from deportation and further distinguished California as immigrant-friendly compared to states such as Arizona and Alabama that have been cracking down on illegal immigration.

"It is disappointing that Jerry Brown doesn't want to be the anti-Jan Brewer," said Aarti Kohli, senior fellow at the Warren Institute on Law and Social Policy at University of California, Berkeley School of Law. "The advocates feel very betrayed. They feel like the immigrant and particularly the Latino community have been behind the governor ... and that he hasn't really shown a deep understanding of these really serious issues."

Brown vetoed the so-called TRUST Act, which would have barred local law enforcement officers from detaining suspects for possible deportation unless they were charged with serious or violent crimes, and another bill to provide overtime pay, meal breaks and other labor protections to domestic workers.

Immigration advocates questioned what drove the Democratic governor to take the positions. Some speculated that pressure from the federal government to protect its flagship immigration enforcement program, known as Secure Communities, and opposition by some California law enforcement officials — including Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca — may have played a role.

Advocates had hoped that Brown — who supported Cesar Chavez and a number of farmworker issues during his first stint as governor — would have backed the TRUST Act, which aimed to curtail the federal government's Secure Communities program.

The program, which checks the immigration status of arrestees, is touted by Immigration and Customs Enforcement as a vital crime-fighting tool but reviled by immigrant advocates who say it erodes immigrants' trust in police. □



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Memorializing 100 who perished in nightclub blaze

JESS BIDGOOD

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WEST WARWICK, R.I. — There is a striking, if scrappy, shrine here, where dozens of homemade crosses rise behind a corroded parking lot, set back from a thin state highway ridged with strip malls and myriad power lines.

This is where the Station nightclub used to stand — the site of a fire in 2003 that killed 100 people. For nearly 10 years, this stretch of grass has been a reliquary for these mementos. But the landowners retained ownership, preventing a formally constructed memorial from taking shape here, and leaving it up to families to mark and maintain this space on their own.

"My family's been pretty much mowing and raking and keeping it up, trying to make it look good," said Shawn Corbett, a plasterer whose brother Edward died in the fire. He and his parents have come here over the years to tend to the property.

"It's been frustrating trying to actually get the land and get the memorial built," he said.

That is about to change. On Friday, the Station Fire Memorial Foundation announced that the owner, Raymond Villanova, had donated the land to the group — which is run mostly by survivors of the blaze — opening a new chapter after nearly 10 years of wait-

ing.

"It means the world," Corbett said quietly.

"This is the last place where they had fun," said Paula McLaughlin, whose younger brother, Michael Hoogasian, and his wife, Sandy, died on that February night. "People who have lost children need a place to go."

The Hoogasians and more than 400 others had come to the 4,400-square-foot club to see the band Great White perform on the night of Feb. 20, 2003. Shortly after 11 o'clock, the band's tour manager lit a pyrotechnic display, which ignited foam insulation near the back of the stage. The fire engulfed the building in just six minutes, sending a crush of people to the front entrance. Many of the 100 died from smoke inhalation, while more than 200 others were injured — trampled and burned. Among the dead was the band's guitarist, Ty Longley.

The event — one of the worst U.S. nightclub fires in memory — left a deep impression on this city, a working-class community of about 30,000, and it rippled across this tiny state.

"Everyone was affected, in one way or another," said Linda Fischer, 43, whose face and hands are scarred by burns from that night.

Over the years, some victims' family members and others have expressed frustration that more legal action was not taken.

The band's tour manager, Daniel Biechele, served less than two years in prison after pleading guilty to 100 counts of involuntary man-

brother sentenced to community service and probation. The fire marshal who failed to notice the flammable foam insulation dur-

O'Neill, was killed in the fire. "It's about a whole disregard for an entire section of our society who isn't connected."

Kane has been an outspoken critic of the proceedings in the aftermath of the fire, dismayed over the inability to give victims' families control of the land so a permanent memorial could be built.

As an informal memorial took shape at the site, with families carving out space on the grass for tiny altars for their loved ones, the process stretched out, stymied by legal issues and perhaps also by divisions among the grieving relatives.

"We thought we were doing something good in the beginning, and then we realized people had their own agendas and we were divided. It just got ugly, and we were in so much pain," said Claire Bruyere, whose daughter, Bonnie Hamelin, 27, died in the fire.

Meanwhile, the land just sat accumulating weeds and homemade tributes. □



Makeshift memorials dot the site of the Station nightclub fire that killed 100 people in 2003, in West Warwick, R.I., Sept. 26, 2012. After almost 10 years, the land owner has donated the land to the Station Fire Memorial Foundation, which will transform the site into a formal memorial, as families of the victims have long desired.

(Gretchen Ertl/The New York Times)

slaughter.

The owners of the Station, the brothers Jeffery and Michael Derderian, pleaded no contest to the same charges; with Michael Derderian serving 27 months in prison, and his

ing an inspection, Denis Larocque, was shielded by state law.

"The people who were in the club were the disenfranchised, on the whole," said Dave Kane, whose 18-year-old son, Nicholas

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Dutch political parties agree to scrap two austerity moves

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — The two Dutch political parties hoping to form the country's next coalition government have agreed to scrap two unpopular austerity measures.

Caretaker Prime Minister Mark Rutte told reporters Monday that he and Labor Party leader Diederik Samson have decided to dump a planned "commuter tax" on money paid to workers to cover travel costs and not fine students who took too long to complete a degree.

The measures were intended to save nearly €2 billion (\$2.58 billion) to help bring the Dutch budget deficit within EU guidelines next year.

To ensure that target will still be met, Rutte and Samson want to raise a tax on insurance and abandon a subsidized savings scheme.

The announcement fueled speculation that Rutte, leader of the free-market VVD party, and Samson may soon be able to hammer out an agreement to form a new Cabinet.

The VVD and Labor emerged from last month's national election as the two biggest parties and together command a comfortable majority in Parliament's lower house. They now are locked in behind-closed-door coalition talks. The only snippet of information Samson would reveal about the talks was that Rutte "eats a huge amount of candy." □

Merkel challenger blasts German-Swiss tax deal

FRANK JORDANS

Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — Switzerland's efforts to safeguard what remains of its banking secrecy came under fire Monday from the man who hopes to unseat Chancellor Angela Merkel in next year's German elections.

Peer Steinbrueck has long been critical of a proposed treaty that would see Germany receive billions of euros from Switzerland in return for dropping a demand to get the names of suspected tax cheats.

The views of Germany's former finance minister received new weight coming hours after he received the nomination to lead the opposition Social Democrats into the next elections. "This German-Swiss tax agreement contains so many fundamental flaws that I can't recommend to my party (...) to vote in favor of it," said Steinbrueck.

The agreement was meant to be approved this year, so it could come into force in 2013. But Steinbrueck's center-left party can block it in Germany's upper house, where Merkel's coalition lacks a majority.

By making the tax deal a campaign issue, Steinbrueck also puts pressure on Merkel to show she won't go soft on tax cheats — at least until the election, which is expected to take place in September. □

Georgia: President, opposition both claim victory

LYNN BERRY

Associated Press

TBILISI, Georgia (AP) — Georgian President Mikhail Saakashvili and the opposition both claimed victory Monday in a parliamentary election that has been shaken up by a prison abuse video that activists say showed the cruel, authoritarian face of the government.

The governing party was in a heated race with the opposition Georgian Dream

ing the streets of Tbilisi, the capital, early Tuesday. Both sides, however, have promised to respect the results if the election receives the approval of international observers.

Two exit polls conducted by Edison Research and Gfk gave the edge to the opposition, but they were completed four hours before the voting stations closed and registered only the vote based on party lists, which is used to elect

polls closed, said the opposition had indeed won the party vote, largely on the strength of its support in Tbilisi. Still, he insisted his party was far ahead in the direct elections and would retain its majority in parliament.

Georgian Dream, however, said its exit polls showed it would win the party vote by 63 percent and citing Ivanishvili as saying he was "prepared to ensure a parliamentary majority."

The Central Election Commission said the first preliminary results were expected at 3 a.m. Tuesday (2300GMT, 7 p.m. EST Monday).

Tbilisi resounded late into the night with car horns and cheering as Georgian Dream supporters celebrated. Thousands gathered on Freedom Square, where they opened bottles of wine, sang songs and hugged one another. Cars drove through the city with young men hanging out of the windows and sunroofs, waving the party's blue flags.

Under Saakashvili, the former Soviet republic has aligned itself with the United States, while striving to join the European Union and NATO. Saakashvili has accused Ivanishvili of serving Kremlin interests and intending to put Georgia back under Russian domination, which the opposition leader has denied.

Ivanishvili, who made his money in Russia, has said he would pursue these strategic goals while also seeking to restore the ties with Moscow that were severed when the two neighboring countries fought a brief war in 2008. □



Georgia's billionaire and opposition leader Bidzina Ivanishvili reacts with supporters at his office in Tbilisi Georgia, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012. Georgia's opposition coalition 'Georgian Dream' is leading the country's just-concluded parliamentary elections, according to the exit polls of a U.S.-based exit poll specialist company Edison Research and a Germany-based market research company GfK on Monday. Voters in Georgia are choosing a new parliament in a heated election Monday that will decide the future of President Mikhail Saakashvili's government.

(AP Photo/str)

coalition led by Bidzina Ivanishvili, a billionaire businessman who has posed the most serious challenge to the pro-Western president since Saakashvili came to power almost nine years ago.

No results have been released yet in Monday's vote. Emotions were running high, with scores of opposition supporters throng-

77 of parliament's 150 members.

The remaining 73 members are directly elected by majority vote in their constituencies, where the president's United National Movement is considered to have a strong advantage in this nation of 4.5 million people on the Black Sea. Saakashvili, speaking on television shortly after the

World Briefs

Portuguese commuters feel brunt of national train strike

LISBON, Portugal (AP) — Lisbon commuters are finding it hard to get to work as Portuguese train engineers begin five days of stoppages to contest austerity measures imposed by the country's government. National rail company Comboios de Portugal said the strike forced the cancellation of almost 70% of suburban services in the capital on Monday morning with intercity and international services also severely disrupted. The engineers are refusing to work during the first two hours of each shift. The National Engineers' Union is demanding pay increases for its members, but the government says loss-making state enterprises such as the rail company must cut back. Portugal's high debts forced it to take a €78 billion bailout last year. On Friday, a public holiday, no trains are expected to run at all. □

Russian nationalists, Kremlin want wedding shooters jailed

MOSCOW (AP) — It was an unusual wedding escort even for Moscow's brash style: A red Ferrari led a motorcade in which guests fired celebratory shots from car windows as they sped down one of the city's main avenues near Red Square. Sunday's parade drew an angry reaction from the Kremlin-controlled parliament, where senior lawmakers voiced outrage Monday after wedding guests from the province of Dagestan in Russia's North Caucasus walked away with \$3 fines. Just one man was ordered to pay a \$60 fine by police who stopped the motorcade just outside the Kremlin. Video of the incident also prompted angry comments from ethnic Russians, who denounced the wedding traditions brought into the Russian capital from the volatile Caucasus. Some called for tougher punishment for such behavior. □

14 killed found inside cars in two separate Mexico regions

CIUDAD VICTORIA, Mexico (AP) — Authorities in Mexico say 14 people have been killed in two regions where rival drug cartels are battling for turf control. Prosecutors in the northern state of Tamaulipas say seven men were found mutilated inside two vehicles parked outside a shopping mall in the border city of Nuevo Laredo. The truck and the SUV containing the bodies had Texas license plates, according to a news statement late Sunday. In the western state of Michoacan, the state attorney general's office said the charred corpses of seven people were found inside a burned car. Police have not identified the victims found Sunday in the town of Yurecuaro, near the border with Jalisco state. Authorities have mentioned a connection between the two attacks. Different drug gangs are fighting in those regions. □

Owners of a grounded cargo ship settle with New Zealand

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — A Greek shipping company has agreed to pay New Zealand up to \$31.5 million toward the cleanup costs of a cargo ship that ran aground on a reef last year. The vessel Rena ran onto the Astrolabe reef near Tauranga on a calm night last October. It spilled hundreds of tons of oil and killed thousands of sea birds in what authorities here say was the country's worst maritime environmental disaster. □

Economic alarm sounded in Iran with rare labor petition

**BRIAN MURPHY
NASSER KARIMI
Associated Press
TEHRAN, Iran (AP)** — For weeks, a manifesto complaining about Iran's stumbling economy circulated in secret among factories and workshops. Organizers asked for signatures and the pages began to fill up. In the end, some 10,000 names were attached to the petition addressed to Iran's labor minister in one of the most wide-reaching public outcries over the state of the country's economy, which has received a double pounding from tightening Western sanctions and alleged mismanagement by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's government.

The rare protest document — described to The Associated Press this week by labor activists and others — suggests growing anxiety among Iran's vast and potentially powerful working class as the ruling system struggles with the latest sanctions, which have targeted critical oil exports and blackballed Iran from international banking networks.

It also appears to reinforce the U.S. and European as-

sertions that the economic squeeze is bringing increasing pressures on Iranian authorities. President Barack Obama and others argue

lic support in the nuclear standoff with the West, the petition and sporadic street demonstrations over the slumping economy suggest



A police colonel, center, talks with a group of Iranian workers during their protest in front of the Industrial Ministry building in Tehran, Iran, demanding their delayed salaries. For weeks, a manifesto complaining about Iran's sinking economy circulated in secret among factories and workshops. In the end, some 10,000 signatures were on a petition addressed to Iran's labor minister calling attention to the street-level fallout from Western sanctions: rising prices, fewer jobs.

(AP Photo)

that sanctions and diplomacy are the best way to wring concessions over Iran's nuclear program even as Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pushes for a "red line" declaration that could trigger military action.

While Iran's leadership still has broad-based pub-

a growing distinction between the national pride of nuclear technology and the economic hardships from Tehran's defiance. The Iranian currency, the rial, hit another all-time low against the dollar Monday, which is certain to further drive up prices of imported goods. □

Pussy Riot appeal postponed

**MAX SEDDON
PETER LEONARD
Associated Press
MOSCOW (AP)** — A Russian court postponed an appeal Monday by three members of the jailed rock band Pussy Riot after one of them fired her lawyers. Prosecutors criticized the move as a delaying tactic, while one defense lawyer said the women were under tremendous pressure, with the government threatening to take away their children.

The two year-sentences given the three performers for hooliganism after they performed a "punk prayer" against President Vladimir Putin at Moscow's main

cathedral have provoked an international outcry that has embarrassed Putin's government.

The band members' imprisonment has come to symbolize intolerance of dissent in Putin's Russia and the increasingly close links between the government and the Orthodox church, which have angered many Russians.

As the hearing began Monday, band member Yekaterina Samutsevich unexpectedly announced that she has fired her three lawyers over an unspecified disagreement. Samutsevich said she had found another lawyer but had not yet signed a con-

tract. Her fellow band members said they supported Samutsevich's choice but would still retain the services of their lawyers. Violetta Volkova, the defense lawyer representing Samutsevich personally, said she did not know the reason for the decision but respected her client's right to choose.

The appeal was adjourned until Oct. 10. Prosecutors and court officials cried foul.

"As a rule, such actions being taken on the day of the hearing are directed solely at creating a delay," court spokeswoman Anna Usacheva said. □

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25 dead, dozens hurt as Hong Kong boat sinks

KELVIN CHAN
Associated Press

HONG KONG (AP) — A boat packed with revelers during a holiday weekend collided with a ferry and sank Monday night off Hong Kong, killing at least 25 people and injuring dozens more, authorities said. The boat was carrying about 120 people when the accident happened near Lamma Island, off the southwestern coast of Hong Kong Island, a government statement said. The vessel was carrying staff members of a utility company and their family

members to Hong Kong's famed Victoria Harbour to watch a fireworks display on a long holiday weekend to celebrate China's National Day and mid-autumn festival. The government said 101 people were rescued and the Hospital Authority said 53 people, including the eight dead, were taken to four hospitals. "There was a boat that came in close and crashed," said Yuen Sui-see, director of operations at Power Assets Holdings Ltd., which was using the vessel to take staff on the outing.

"After the crash, the other boat continued away, it didn't stop." He denied the vessel was overloaded, saying it was carrying 121 passengers and three crew but had capacity for more

with the bow pointing straight up. Helicopters circled overhead with searchlights as government vessels surrounded the boat and divers prepared to enter the water. Broadcaster

chartered boat was hit by another boat operated by the Hong Kong and Kowloon Ferry company on a regularly scheduled service. RTHK said the captain of the other ship, which was slightly damaged but able to return to port, was afraid to stop in case it sank. "All of Hong Kong's emergency forces are focused here," said Hong Kong's leader, Chief Executive Leung Chun-ying. "Wide-ranging rescue work is being carried out on in the sea, land and in the air." Leung said he didn't know what caused the collision but promised a thorough investigation. Survivors said the boat started sinking rapidly after the collision. One woman told local television that she swallowed a lot of water as she swam back to shore. Another man said he didn't know where his children were. Neither gave their names. □



Rescuers check on a half submerged boat after it collided Monday night near Lamma Island, off the southwestern coast of Hong Kong Island Tuesday, Oct. 2, 2012. Authorities in Hong Kong have rescued 101 people after a ferry collided with a tugboat and sank. A local broadcaster says 25 people died. (AP Photo/Kin Cheung)

than 200 passengers. Television channels showed the boat half submerged

RTHK said 23 people were still missing. Local news reports said the

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South Africa starts mine investigation

CARLEY PETESCH
Associated Press

MARIKANA, South Africa (AP) — A judicial panel on Monday investigated the rocky site where South African police killed 34 striking miners in August. Crime experts showed the commission of inquiry the scene of the police shootings that were South Africa's worst state violence since apartheid ended in 1994. President Jacob Zuma ordered the judicial investigation to determine the causes of the police killings which shook the nation. One of the experts first pointed out where police laid barbed wire fencing that blocked thousands of people gathered on large brown boulders from running back to their informal settlement on Aug. 16. Sixteen people died near the site. Another 18 were killed across the field and on the

other side of the large group of boulders. The second expert pointed to bullet marks, where shotgun casings were found, bodies laid and an emergency medical care area was set up. The judicial panel and a large crowd of representatives for those involved in the inquiry followed the experts, after a group of protesters with the Marikana support campaign greeted them with songs and signs that read: "Don't let the police get away with murder." Among those participating in inquiry is George Bizos, former lawyer for Nelson Mandela and who now represents the Legal Resources Center and the Bench Marks Foundation in the inquiry. In addition to those killed, some 78 were injured and more than 250 arrested in the incident. □

Fatal shooting fuels tension before Venezuela's election

FABIOLA SANCHEZ
IAN JAMES
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Jason Valero was so excited about the possibility that Henrique Capriles could unseat President Hugo Chavez that he took a few weeks off from his job as a dump truck driver to work on the opposition presidential candidate's campaign. Valero also planned to volunteer during the Oct. 7 election at a polling station. On Saturday, he joined a

funeral. Capriles demanded that the authorities carry out a "serious investigation" to determine those responsible. "Why does a Venezuelan have to fall because of intolerance? Why does a campaign event have to be attacked... presumably by government sympathizers?" Capriles said at a news conference on Monday in Caracas. One suspect has been arrested in the killings, Justice Minister Tareck El Aissami



Venezuela's opposition presidential candidate Henrique Capriles speaks with journalists and supporters after holding a news conference with foreign correspondents in Caracas, Venezuela, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012. Venezuela's presidential election is scheduled for Oct. 7.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

campaign caravan in his native rural state of Barinas, driving his Mitsubishi Montero with his wife and 15-year-old daughter. Chavez supporters blocked the road in the western state, and Valero and others got out of their cars in an attempt to persuade the protesters to let them pass. Suddenly, gunshots rang out and Valero was bleeding on the pavement. Valero's younger brother, Ramon, riding in another car, rushed to his side. Jason Valero later died, one of two Capriles supporters slain in a shooting that has inflamed tensions ahead of Venezuela's presidential election on Sunday. "He died fighting for a change," Ramon Valero told The Associated Press on Monday in a phone interview from Barinas, while the family prepared for the

said on Sunday. His name has not been released. Chavez lamented the violence at a rally on Sunday in western Zulia state. Capriles later questioned Chavez's stance, saying the president has long vilified his opponents using "a violent, aggressive discourse." Chavez and his justice minister described the violence as a "confrontation," but opposition supporters denied that, saying they were simply attacked. A video posted on YouTube, which circulated in Venezuelan media, showed the two groups arguing in the street, and then people scattering as shots rang out. Capriles noted that those who had blocked the road wore red pro-government T-shirts, and that those who had gotten out of their cars to talk "were attacked with gunfire." □

Bangladesh claiming Islamic radicals attacked Buddhists

JULHAS ALAM
TOFAYEL AHMED
Associated Press

MERUNGLUA, Bangladesh (AP) — Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government is blaming Islamic radicals and opposition activists for attacks over the weekend on minority Buddhists and their temples in southern Bangladesh. "In primary investigations, we have found that organized radical Islamic groups attacked the houses and places of worship," Home Minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir told reporters after a visit to the scene on Sunday. "Activists of the opposition parties were also among the attacks."

Alamgir accused local opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party lawmaker Lutfar Rahman Kajal of instigating the attack, a charge denied by the opposition legislator. Hundreds of Buddhists fled their southern Bangladesh villages in the wake of attacks by Muslims who burned at least 10 Buddhist temples and 40 homes in anger over a Facebook photo of a burned Quran. The Buddhists started returning home Monday amid heightened security and more than 160 arrests. Mahmud Ali, a local reporter in southern Ramu where the violence occurred, said some local villagers blamed minority Rohingya Muslims for the violence, but the minister made no comment on this allegation. In another development, main opposition BNP leader Khaleda Zia in a statement Monday accused the government administration of failing to protect the minority Buddhists. She said she feared that the government may use the violence as an excuse to crack down on the opposition. "There may be a well-planned ill motive behind the incidents," she said. No new violence was reported on Monday. Army soldiers, paramilitary border guards and police

were deployed, and the government has banned all public gatherings in the troubled areas near the southern border with Myanmar, said Lt. Col. Jaed Hos-

sain, a military commander who was helping to install tents for displaced Buddhists. "They are coming back. We are giving them protec-



A Bangladeshi Buddhist Monk, left, reacts as he looks at burned books at a Buddhist temple which was torched in an overnight weekend attack in Ramu in the coastal district of Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012. Hundreds of Buddhists fled their southern Bangladesh villages in the wake of attacks by Muslims who burned at least 10 Buddhist temples and 40 homes in anger over a Facebook photo of a burned Quran. The Buddhists started returning home Monday amid heightened security and more than 160 arrests.

(AP Photo/A.M.Ahad)

tion," Hossain said at Merunglua village in the coastal district of Cox's Bazar on Monday. Home Minister Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir told reporters

sain, a military commander who was helping to install tents for displaced Buddhists. "They are coming back. We are giving them protec-

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Haitians ignore plastic bag ban

TRENTON DANIEL
Associated Press
PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti
(AP) — Haitian merchants on Monday ignored the

Petionville, dozens of vendors openly sold the tightly rolled bags and big packages of to-go food containers without apparent



People carry sacks containing plastic bottles on a wheelbarrow to sell at a Haiti recycling office in Cite Soleil, Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012. Haitian merchants on Monday ignored the first day of a government ban on the sale and general use of plastic bags and foam food containers.

(AP Photo/Dieu Nalio Chery)

first day of a government ban on the sale and general use of plastic bags and foam food containers. In a busy, crowded market in the hillside district of

concern that they would be stopped. Some said they will keep peddling the goods if the government doesn't provide alternative jobs. Others said they

will sell something else if the government enforces the ban.

"It's fine if the government wants to ban the containers but it also needs to create an alternative," said Innocent Petit-Frere, a 57-year-old vendor who, like many others, buys the foam containers from the neighboring Dominican Republic in bulk. He sells packages of 100 containers for \$6.87. Petit-Frere wondered how people would be able to eat meals on the go without access to the foam containers, which have become ubiquitous in the capital.

"You have to eat, and you just can't put the food on the ground," he said from his store as co-workers piled bags of imported rice. The office of Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe announced the ban in August. The goal is to clear some of the litter that is strewn across Port-au-Prince and clogs drainage channels critical to prevent flooding. The measure will most certainly affect Haiti's poor majority, many of whom make a living by selling the bags and boxes on the streets. □



Ex-prime minister of Curacao Gerrit Schotte (featured) has abandoned a plan to hole up in his former office in protest of the appointment of an interim government to run the Dutch Caribbean island until the Oct. 19 election.

Former Curacao prime minister ends protest

ORLANDO CUALES
Associated Press
WILLEMSTAD, Curacao (AP)

— The ex-prime minister of Curacao has abandoned a plan to hole up in his former office in protest of the appointment of an interim government to run the Dutch Caribbean island until the Oct. 19 election. Gerrit Schotte left his old office in the government building known as "the Fort," to attend a news conference and then decided not to return, saying Monday that he had made his point and needed to be out so he could campaign for re-election.

The former leader, who dissolved parliament and called elections after his governing coalition lost its legislative majority on Aug. 3, had announced his intention to stay in the office on Sunday, a day after the country's governor announced the appointment of an interim government. Schotte called the installation of an interim government unconstitutional and insisted he should have been allowed to remain at

his post until the election. He and supporters of his Movement for the Future of Curacao announced there had been a "coup."

"I was trying to send a signal to everybody in Curacao that the Fort was taken over in an unconstitutional way," he told The Associated Press. "The story has to be told." The southern Caribbean island has a population of about 140,000 people and an economy largely dependent on off-shore finance and tourism, much of it from nearby Venezuela. It was a part of the Netherlands Antilles until October 2010, when it became a more autonomous "constituent country" of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The island's governor is the representative of the Dutch monarch. After Schotte announced his protest, the Dutch government issued a statement saying the former government was legally replaced and an interim one put in place to make sure the run-up to the Oct. 19 election and the vote itself run smoothly. □

Mexico sees huge drop in monthly remittances

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The amount of money sent home by Mexicans working abroad has plunged 11.6 percent this month, its worst drop since early 2010 when migrants were struggling to find jobs amid an economic crisis. Mexico's central bank says remittances in August fell to

\$1.9 billion from the \$2.1 billion sent home from abroad during the same month in 2011. The drop announced Monday followed a 2.1 percent decrease in remittances in July. But remittances had just rebounded in 2011 after the wide drops of 2008 and 2009.

Nearly all remittances come from the U.S., where about 12 million Mexican citizens live. Experts blamed the drop on the decrease in manufacturing jobs in the U.S. in the past months, which may be attracting fewer workers, and the rise of the Mexican peso against the dollar. □



Everyone came from everywhere to San Nicolas to enjoy Heineken's cool, exciting Green Village!

ORANJESTAD- On Saturday was a day that everyone came from everywhere to San Nicolas, to be part of another successful edition of Green Village, presented by Heineken.

A large crowd knew how to enjoy different artists, like Gyptian, Upgrade Music, D'licious, Le Groove, Basic One and many more. The public really was into this event. Dancing was a must. In the photos you can enjoy a few moments



of the Green Village. Another upcoming event to look forward to is the Ghost Town, which takes place at the end of the month! □

Caribbean Sea Jazz performers are here:

Pete Philly and Sven Hammond Soul on Aruba ready to impress!

Pete Philly and Sven Hammond Soul arrived on the island on Sunday afternoon's KLM flight. They are the first international bands to arrive for the upcoming Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival, which is held at the festive Cas di Cultura site on October 5 and 6. With headliners like multi Grammy winner Chaka Khan and salsa sensation Oscar D'Leon, the buzz for the 2012 edition of the festival is already deafening. Pete Philly and Sven Hammond will be in more good company: an incredible line-up with local as well as international talent will be their entourage. A group of more than thirty musicians, technical staffers and press arrived with the flight from Holland. They were welcomed with Chill beer, AWA water and lots of handshakes. Minister plenipotentiary Edwin Abath, on the island for the Green Conference, welcomed singer and radio commentator Jovanka, Sven Hammond and Pete Philly and their happy friends. The Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival brochure, a

very good-looking publication with information about the festival, was snatched up by everyone. After the luggage had been wheeled into the VIP section it was time for Pete and Sven to sign their posters in the arrivals hall; the discerning eye will be able to notice their signatures on the giant festival posters. Pete Philly, recently the proud owner of the Gouden Kalf for best film music, one of the most prestigious awards in Holland, has received rave reviews for his multi-media project 'Open Loops'. His solo album 'One' is a masterpiece, the result of two years of intense dedication after a whirlwind couple of years of playing gigs all over the world. Pete, born on Aruba in 1980 as Pieter Monzon, is a musical wizard in funk, jazz, soul and hiphop. Look him up at www.petephilly.com for his digital mix tape with free downloads. Sven Hammond is the stage name of Sven Figee; he has taken Hammond as his last name in honor



Beauty On The Beach

Laura Vink

From Florida, first time in Aruba, staying at the Aruba Marriott Beach Resort, leaving Saturday. Please if her picture can be published before Saturday.

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of his Hammond organ, which he plays like a virtuoso. Together with his band members Tim Eijmaal (guitar), Glen Gaddum (bass), Joost Kroon (percussion), Tom Beek and Arjan Muusz (sax), and Rik Mol (trumpet) and vocalists Demi Matenahoru and Ivan Peroti he is going to show his native island how soul and funk can go straight to your

heart. A foretaste of Sven Hammond Soul in action can be witnessed at Café the Plaza's 21st anniversary bash on Thursday, October 4. For more information about ticket sales and the schedule of the performing artists of the Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival, please surf to www.caribbeanseajazz.com. □

Loyal Aruba visitors honored by ATA together with Honorable members of Parliament



Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring two very nice couples, whom are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, at the Aruba Tourism Authority Headquarters, as Distinguished Visitors and Ambassadors of Goodwill. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to

guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 and 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were Adolf and Linda Frias as Distinguished Visitors, and John and Barbara Santos as Ambassadors of Goodwill. Both couples are loyal members of the Casa del Mar Beach Resort and are good friends of the Honorable member of Aruba



Parliament, Clarisca Velasquez. Both couples love the Island very much, because of the friendly people, the climate, beaches, restaurants and the diversity of

the island, and because Aruba feels like a second home where the people are like a family to them. The certificate was presented by Ernest Giel, rep-

resenting the Aruba Tourism Authority, in the presence of Honorable members of the Aruba Parliament Clarisca Velasquez and Chris Dammers. □

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CASINO AND SHOPS

Ling & Sons launches its end of year campaign

On Friday 29 September, Ling & Sons IGA, the #1 supermarket in Aruba launched its end of year campaign with the slogan "Ling & Sons ta regala e Fiesta di anja" (Ling & Sons is giving away the "Fiesta" of the year) where customers get a chance to win amazing prizes with every purchase of AWG 50 or more at Ling & Sons. Customers get double



raffle tickets every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during this campaign! Everyone was surprised and delighted to see the end of year setup that Ling & Sons has put in place this year to showcase the amazing 1st prize: **FORD FIESTA 2012**. The prizes given away with the campaign include:

- 1st prize: Ford Fiesta 2012
 - 2nd prize: Fiesta with pop star Rihanna for 2 persons (includes flight/concert tickets and hotel)
 - 3rd prize: Island Fiesta (Island hopping Aruba-Bonaire-Curacao)
- The raffle will take place on January 4th 2013. Besides the end of year campaign launch, Ling

& Sons also announced the official date for this year's firework show. The Firework show will take place on December 28th, 2012 and is expected to be spectacular and bigger than ever before. A definite must go event! For more information about the end of year activities of Ling & Sons visit their Facebook page "Ling and Sons IGA". □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "From the pier to your plate!"



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad.

Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean. What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35 ft. Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50 ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on a daily basis from 8am to 12 noon and from 1 pm to



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Driftwood Restaurant

This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 4-course menu for just \$25.95
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Max. 6 people
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Tel: (297) 583 2515
www.driftwoodaruba.com
Opening hours: every day, from 5pm till 10:30pm,
Sunday Closed.



NHL labor talks set to resume Tuesday

JOHN WAWROW
AP Sports Writer

NHL labor talks will resume Tuesday morning, with both sides still focusing on secondary matters and not the core economic issues that continue to divide owners and players in a league-imposed lockout entering its third week.

The NHL confirmed on Monday that talks were set to resume in New York.

Negotiators for the league and NHL Players' Association are expected to pick up where they left off after Sunday, when they completed three straight days of discussions.

The talks focused on secondary issues, such as what should define hockey-related revenue, as well as player health and safety. Though both sides have made progress during the latest series of discussions, they've failed to make much of a dent in determining how to split up more than \$3 billion in league revenues between owners and players.

No further talks are currently scheduled beyond Tuesday.

The NHL locked out the players after the collective bargaining agreement expired on Sept. 15, and has since canceled its entire preseason schedule.

The next step is expected to come this week, when the NHL is anticipated to announce the postponement of the start of the regular season, which was scheduled to open on Oct. 11.

The NHL dispute is now attracting the attention of two New Jersey senators, who are urging both sides to settle. □

Ryder Cup

U.S. loses and questions to follow

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

MEDINAH, Illinois (AP) —

The Ryder Cup didn't end with the closing ceremony at Medinah.

In a tradition that began about the time Europe started winning with regularity, no Ryder Cup can be put to bed without second-guessing. It figures to last for at least a week, maybe until 2014 when the next one is played in Scotland.

Was it wise for U.S. captain



USA players arrive at the closing ceremony of the Ryder Cup PGA golf tournament Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012, at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Ill.

Associated Press

Davis Love III to bench every player, particularly Keegan Bradley and Phil Mickelson, for at least one match to keep them fresh for Sunday? Why did he put Tiger Woods in the 12th slot for singles? Does he regret his captain picks? Did it cost the Americans?

And was it really necessary for Justin Timberlake to read a poem during the opening ceremony?

Continued on Page 18

N.Y. Jets standing by Mark Sanchez



New York Jets quarterback Mark Sanchez reacts during the second half of an NFL football game against the San Francisco 49ers Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012, in East Rutherford, N.J. the 49ers won the game 34-0.
Associated Press

as Tebow, well, stands by

DENNIS WASZAK Jr.

AP Sports Writer

FLORHAM PARK, New Jersey (AP) —

The boos started sometime in the third quarter, anxious Jets fans watching their struggling team get trampled.

By the time the game Sunday was in its closing minutes, the remaining few wearing green and white made their feelings known with each chant, loud and clear:

"Tee-boww! Tee-boww!"

Well, this mess the New York Jets are in might be too big for even Tim Tebow to fix.

Mark Sanchez and the offense had another lousy performance in a 34-0 loss to the San Francisco 49ers. Bad passes, bad routes, bad football.

But this was supposed to be exactly how Tebow was going to help, by bringing a spark to the team by confusing defenses and making big plays.

Continued on Page 20

Gretzky hopes for NHL labor deal by Winter Classic



Hockey great Wayne Gretzky throws out the ceremonial first pitch before a baseball game between the Toronto Blue Jays and the Minnesota Twins, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012, in Toronto.

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — The Great One is optimistic about the NHL's labor situation.

Wayne Gretzky thinks the league's lockout will end before the showcase Winter Classic between the Detroit Red Wings and Toronto Maple Leafs.

"I believe in my heart, maybe because I'm such a big hockey fan, that they will be playing by Jan. 1," he said Monday during a question and answer period at a panel discussion on personal finance.

Detroit and Toronto are scheduled to play outdoors at Michigan Stadium to kick off the new year.

The Hall of Fame center and former part owner of the Phoenix Coyotes feels the gap between the league and its players is smaller than in 2004, when the NHL lost an entire season.

"I think that in 2004 we were changing the whole landscape," Gretzky said. "Ownership wanted to have some sort of revenue sharing, and once we came to the revenue sharing, the hard part — from my point of view — seems to be out of the way.

Ryder Cup

Continued from page 17

Here's what will be — should be — remembered about one of the greatest Ryder Cup competitions in its 85-year history.

It's really that simple.

"That was one of the best feelings of my life to make that putt," Rose said.

Martin Kaymer looked calm as ever when he holed a 6-foot par putt on the 18th that assured Europe of keeping that shiny gold trophy. Francesco Molinari won a half-point on a short par putt that Tiger Woods conceded for Europe to claim an outright win, 14½-13½.

This was not a Ryder Cup to contemplate failures. This was a Ryder Cup to celebrate success.

And no match — no birdie putt — was more significant than what Rose did on the 17th green. He was down one hole when his putt with plenty of pace disappeared into the cup to square the match. Rose made a 12-foot birdie on the 18th for a 1-up win over Mickelson, but odds are that Lefty wins that match if Rose doesn't make the putt.

But he did, just like Justin Leonard on the 17th hole at Brookline when the Americans rallied from a four-point deficit.

In happier times Sunday, Love had said he thought Jason Dufner in the No. 9 slot was going to be the clincher for the Americans. If not for Rose winning his match, it could very well have come down to Dufner's win over Peter Hanson.

So maybe Love had it right, and he lost out to a great putt.

"We had a lot of guys today that played well and just got beat," Love said. "They got beat by some holed putt, chip-ins, some incredible shots, and some matches got flipped at the end on long putts and great saves by the other team. I have to congratulate them on the way they played. They played great."

Ultimately, this Ryder Cup turned out the way everyone expected.

It featured the two



The European team poses with the trophy after winning the Ryder Cup PGA golf tournament Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012, at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Ill.

Associated Press

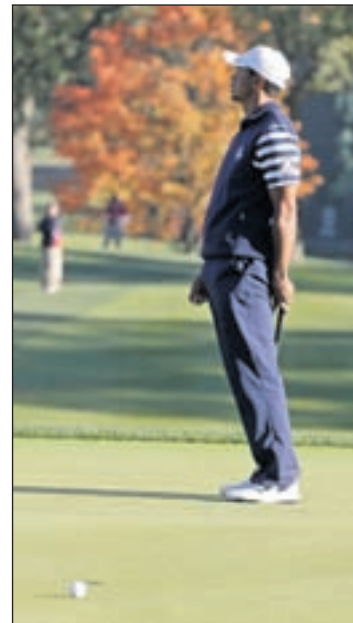
strongest teams ever, all 24 players among the top 35 in the world ranking. Graeme McDowell was looking over the team rosters a few weeks out and said, "There's a good buzz. I think it's set up to be an awesome Ryder Cup. I really do."

And it was.

The best Ryder Cup matches — really, the best golf tournaments — are those that are won and not lost. Kiawah Island, where Bernhard Langer missed a 6-foot par putt on the last hole, left too many people with a sick feeling. McDowell making a 15-foot birdie putt at Wales was great stuff.

European captain Mark James was a hero on Saturday night in Brookline for sticking with the same partnerships in building a 10-6 lead. He was vilified for sitting out three players until Sunday, all of whom lost. Even this year, Jose Maria Olazabal was taking his share of criticism for not playing Ian Poulter in fourballs on Friday, and for sending out Lee Westwood on Saturday morning after he didn't show much game on the opening day.

Mickelson and Bradley won three matches by playing 15, 17 and 12 holes in a



USA's Tiger Woods reacts after missing a putt on the 16th hole during a singles match at the Ryder Cup PGA golf tournament Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012, at the Medinah Country Club in Medinah, Ill.

Associated Press

dominant display. Why not send them out? For one thing, Mickelson didn't feel like he would have been effective. There's a history of teams going four matches and running out of steam, such as Sergio Garcia and Jesper Parnevik at Brookline. They went 3-0, fought for a halve in the fourth session, and neither made it past 15 holes on Sunday before losing. Love was grilled Sunday evening about sitting them

out until Mickelson stepped in.

"Hold on, Davis," he said. "As far as playing Keegan and I, you need to hear something. Keegan and I knew going in that we were not playing in the afternoon, and we said on the first tee, 'We are going to put everything we have into this one match, because we are not playing the afternoon.'

"And when we got to 10, I went to Davis and I said, 'Listen, you're seeing our best. You cannot put us in the afternoon, because we emotionally and mentally are not prepared for it. And I know you're going to get pressure, because we're playing so good.' So you cannot put that on him. If anything, it was me."

They both lost their singles matches, Mickelson to a clutch performance by Rose, Bradley to Rory McIlroy, the best player in the world.

The one area golf is as fickle in the Ryder Cup as any other tournament is the inability to predict who's going to play well. Dustin Johnson and Brandt Snedeker were the hottest players in September. Johnson went 3-0 in the Ryder Cup, Snedeker was 1-2. Zach Johnson had not been in the top 10 since July, and the only reason he didn't win every match was because Poulter ran off five straight birdies late Saturday afternoon.

If there was room to second-guess anything, it was the ending.

The sole purpose of the Ryder Cup is to go home with the trophy, and Europe did that when Kaymer beat Steve Stricker to give Europe 14 points. As the defending champion, that's all it needed. There was chaos around the 18th green, and Woods had a 1-up lead. Molinari thought about conceding the match until he saw Olazabal.

"They told me, 'It's not the same, winning or halving, so get focused and do your best.' And that's what I did," he said.

With singing and swaying all around them, Woods chipped to 3½ feet and missed the putt. □

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Beltran homers twice as Cardinals beat Nats 10-4

The Associated Press

ST. LOUIS (AP) — ST. LOUIS (AP) — Carlos Beltran homered from both sides of the plate for the ninth time in his career and drove in five runs as the St. Louis Cardinals closed in on the National League's second wild-card berth by beating the Washington Nationals 10-4 on Sunday.

St. Louis (86-73) took a 7-0 lead by the third inning and reduced its magic number for clinching the wildcard berth to two. They lead the Dodgers by two games for the second NL wild card.

Washington (96-63), already assured of the capital's first postseason baseball since 1933, saw its magic number for clinching the NL East remain at one over second-place Atlanta (93-66).

Lance Lynn (18-7) allowed four runs and six hits in 5 1-3 innings, improving to 5-0 with a 2.10 ERA in his last five appearances.

Beltran hit a pair of two-run homers, connecting right-handed off Ross Detwiler (10-8) in the second and left-handed against Chien-Ming Wang in the fourth.

BRAVES 6, METS 2

ATLANTA (AP) — The Atlanta Braves won for a major league record 23rd straight time in games started by Kris Medlen, beating the Mets in the regular-season home finale for Chipper Jones.

Medlen (10-1) gave up one unearned run and three hits in six innings.

According to STATS LLC research going back to 1921, only two other teams won 22 straight starts by a pitcher: the New York Giants with Carl Hubbell (1936-37) and the Yankees with Whitey Ford (1950-53). Ford's streak was interrupted by

military service.

Atlanta is 12-0 in Medlen's starts this season after he moved to the rotation on July 31. The team's streak of 23 straight wins in Medlen's starts began in 2010.

David Ross hit a three-run homer in the second off Jenry Mejia (1-3). Jones had a single and two walks.

REDS 4, PIRATES 3

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Pirates ensured they'd finish with a record 20th straight losing season Sunday when they blew a ninth-inning lead in a 4-3 defeat to the Reds.

Pinch-hitter Xavier Paul led off the ninth with a home run off Joel Hanrahan (5-2) and Zack Cozart had a go-head double for Cincinnati, who clinched home-field advantage in the NL division series.

The Pirates extended their major North American professional sports record. Pittsburgh was 16 games over .500 on Aug. 6, but has lost 18 of 23 to fall to 77-82. Sean Marshall (5-5) got two outs for the win.

DODGERS 7, ROCKIES 1

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Josh Beckett earned his first victory in his last five starts and the Los Angeles Dodgers backed him with three homers, beating Colorado for their fifth straight win to stay in contention for an NL wild-card spot.

Matt Kemp, Luis Cruz and A.J. Ellis each hit two-run homers as the Dodgers remained two games behind St. Louis for the second wild card. The Dodgers have their first five-game winning streak in more than two months. Beckett (2-3) allowed one run and six hits in six innings, struck out five and walked three for his first victory since Sept. 1 against Arizona.



St. Louis Cardinals' Carlos Beltran hits his second home run of a baseball game during the fourth against the Washington Nationals Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012, in St. Louis.

Associated Press

Jorge De La Rosa (0-2) gave up four runs and five hits in four innings.

PHILLIES 4, MARLINS 1

MIAMI (AP) — Cole Hamels struck out eight and allowed one run over seven innings to finish his season with a flourish, and the Phillies beat the Marlins.

Hamels (17-6) allowed five hits and walked only one in his final start of the year for the Phillies (80-79), who need one win in the final three-game series at Washington starting Monday to finish at least .500 for the 10th straight season.

Jose Reyes had a pair of hits and Carlos Lee drove in a run for Miami, which lost for the 21st time in its last 29 games.

Marlins starter Nathan Eovaldi (4-13) gave up three runs — all in the first — and struck out seven in six innings.

ASTROS 7, BREWERS 0

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Jordan Lyles pitched his first major league shutout and hit his first home run as Houston eliminated the Brewers from wild-card playoff contention. □

Rangers: MLB investigating homophobic slur

JANIE McCAULEY
AP Baseball Writer

OAKLAND, California (AP)

— Texas Rangers general manager Jon Daniels says someone posted a homophobic slur on pitcher Derek Holland's Twitter account Sunday that was directed at a heckler.

Major League Baseball is investigating the post, which was quickly taken down. Holland said Monday in Oakland he was pitching at the time and he didn't do it. He noted that only his fiancée, Lauren, had access to his account and she told him she was not involved. He also checked with family members, who said they knew nothing about it. Daniels calls it a "serious issue, it's an unacceptable term to use."

Less than two weeks ago,



Texas Rangers starting pitcher Derek Holland throws during the first inning of the second baseball game of a doubleheader against the Los Angeles Angels, Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012, in Arlington, Texas.

Associated Press

the Toronto Blue Jays suspended starting shortstop Yunel Escobar for three games for wearing eye-black displaying a homophobic slur in Spanish during a game against Boston. □

Colts coach Chuck Pagano diagnosed with leukemia

MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Colts coach Chuck Pagano has been diagnosed with leukemia and is expected to be hospitalized six to eight weeks as he undergoes treatment.

He will be replaced on an interim basis by offensive coordinator Bruce Arians.

Team owner Jim Irsay made the announcement Monday during a somber and sometimes emotional news conference at the team complex.

"I think it's unlikely he'll be all in as the head coach



In this Sept. 23, 2012, file photo, Indianapolis Colts head coach Chuck Pagano appears before an NFL football game against the Jacksonville Jaguars in Indianapolis.
Associated Press

the rest of this season," Irsay said. "He may be able to come back and be in the press box or something."

The 51-year-old Pagano is in his first season with the Colts (1-2).

He was hired in January after serving as the Baltimore Ravens' defensive coordinator.

Dr. Larry Cripe, the physician treating the coach at Indiana University's Simon Cancer Center, said Pagano has acute myeloid leukemia, where the bone marrow is producing abnormal white blood cells that interfere with healthy

blood cells.

Symptoms can include weakness, weight loss and easy bruising or bleeding. Treatments can include chemotherapy, drugs and radiation therapy.

Irsay said Pagano's wife pushed him to see the doctor after noticing unusual bruising on the coach's body.

The initial phase of treatment usually requires a hospital stay of four to five weeks, though Irsay later acknowledged he expected Pagano to be in the hospital at least six weeks. □

Tebow

Continued from Page 17

So far, the Tebow wildcat experiment has been a dud. He has played in just 31 of the Jets' 257 offensive snaps, and Tebow has done little to strike fear in opposing defenses when he has been out there.

"We haven't been as successful at running the wildcat as I thought we would," Rex Ryan said. "I think that's fair to say, but again, without question, I'm not ready to give up on him. I think the wildcat is tough to defend and I've always said that."

Still, while they are standing by Sanchez right now, perhaps their biggest potential playmaker — Tebow — is mostly just standing by.

Ryan, general manager Mike Tannenbaum and owner Woody Johnson insisted all summer that Tebow wasn't a publicity stunt to sell tickets and jerseys. He was going to be a key part of a rejuvenated, dynamic and unpredictable offense under Tony Sparano.

Everyone is still waiting to see all that. Tebow was in on seven offensive plays — three at quarterback and four as a fullback — and accounted for a measly 9 yards Sunday. That came on the first and only pass he has thrown with New York, a jump toss to Derrick Epps, who injured his right knee on the play and fumbled.



In this Sept. 23, 2012, file photo, New York Jets quarterbacks Tim Tebow (15) and Mark Sanchez (6) warm up before an NFL football game against the Miami Dolphins in Miami.
Associated Press

"I'm just ready and willing to do whatever they want me to do," Tebow said Sunday, not once saying anything that could be construed as frustration or be twisted to feed into an increasingly hotter quarterback situation.

Ryan did his best to defuse any talk about a change at the position, declaring Sanchez the undisputed starter after the game and then again Monday.

"I just know in my heart, right now, that this is not the time," Ryan said when asked what it would take for him to switch quarterbacks. "I think Tim is an outstanding player and I think Mark is. Right now, I think

Mark gives us our best opportunity to win."

But there have been several moments in games this season that appeared to be perfect fits for Tebow to give the offense a boost. Instead, the NFL's most popular backup quarterback has remained on the sideline for many of those situations.

"If you guys had all the answers, then you would be offensive coordinators," linebacker Bart Scott said on a conference call. "Football guys, players and coaches kind of know the pulse of the team and what needs to be done. It's early in the season. You can't try and change everything around in Week 5."

On the surface, it's hardly a time to panic for the Jets, who are 2-2 and sitting in first place in the AFC East with two wins in the division. In reality, this is a team in deep trouble with the Houston Texans, arguably the best team in the AFC, coming to town next Monday night. Then come games against Indianapolis, New England and Miami. The Jets are already without star cornerback Darrelle Revis, out with a knee injury, and are waiting to learn the status of receiver Santonio Holmes after he hurt his left foot Sunday.

If the Jets don't get better in a hurry, this season could begin spiraling out of con-

trol.

"We have to come up with some solutions," Ryan said, "because if we just keep repeating the same things or whatever, how can we expect the results to change?"

That's why Ryan is huddling with his coaches Monday and Tuesday, giving the players the two days off to do some soul searching.

The coaching staff is going over what they've been doing for the first four games and trying to figure out what's gone so wrong. "We have talent," Ryan insisted. "There's no doubt we have talent here. Are we getting the most out of our talent? I think that's what we have to do. That's a challenge to myself and the coaches."

As much as Ryan likes to spin things positive for his guys, he knows the season might already be on the brink — just five weeks in.

"I'm confident we'll come back," Ryan said. "I'm confident we'll respond and play much better."

The defense is just as at fault as the offense. Sure, it kept the Jets in it early before the 49ers ran all over the field, rolling up 245 yards on the ground.

New York is ranked 31st in the NFL against the run, a stunning spot for a Ryan-led defense.

Even the special teams unit has had some mishaps, with a blocked punt Sunday the caper to an all-around horrid performance by New York. □

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Colorado Rapids midfielder Jaime Castrillon, left, gets tangled up with Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder Omar Gonzalez, right, during their MLS soccer match, Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012, in Commerce City, Colo.
Associated Press

MLS Roundup

Sarvas scores as Galaxy draw 1-1 with Rapids

COMMERCE CITY, Colorado (AP) —

Marcelo Sarvas scored in the 10th minute as the Los Angeles Galaxy extended their unbeaten streak to seven games with a 1-1 draw against the Colorado Rapids on Sunday.

Galaxy has won five and drawn two of its last seven matches and moved two points behind Real Salt Lake for second place in the Western Conference with three games remaining.

Jaime Castrillon scored his eighth goal of the year in the 16th minute for the Rapids, who have won only once in their last 15 games.

Los Angeles pressured Rapids goalkeeper Matt Pickens early and it paid off quickly. Robbie Keane had his shot blocked by defenders, but the ball rebounded to Sarvas, who sent a low drive past Pickens' right hand.

Landon Donovan and Sarvas combined to set up Keane in front of an open goal in the 13th minute, but Keane fell and never got to the ball.

Colorado equalized when Castrillon took a pass from Hunter Freeman and beat Galaxy goalkeeper Josh Saunders from 20 yards.

Donovan had a goal disallowed in the 29th minute after he leaped over Freeman and put the ball past Pickens.

Neither team threatened in the second half until Drew Moor's header for the Rapids in the 80th minute. Moor took a corner from Martin Rivero in the area, but his header sailed over the crossbar.

"The game was there to be won and we didn't win it," Colorado midfielder Jeff Larentowicz said. "Now we are faced with the prospects that we have to win every game" to qualify for the playoffs. □

WNBA Roundup

Storm outlast Lynx in 2OT to force Game 3

SEATTLE (AP) — Sue Bird scored 22 points, including two 3-pointers in the second overtime, as the Seattle Storm beat the Minnesota Lynx 86-79 on Sunday night to force a deciding third game in the Western Conference semifinal series.

In the Eastern Conference semifinals, Tamika Catchings had 25 points and 13 rebounds and Briann January scored 24 points to help the Indiana Fever beat the Atlanta Dream 103-88 to level their series at 1-1.

At Seattle, Tanisha Wright had 18 points for the Storm, including a tying 3 with 23.9 seconds left in the first overtime. Camille Little added 12 points and Tina Thompson had 10.

Rebekkah Brunson scored 22 points and Seimone Augustus had 20 for the defending champion Lynx.

Thompson opened the second extra period with a 3-pointer that put the Storm ahead for good, 78-75. After Lindsay Whalen had a jumper for the Lynx, Bird hit a 3 that stretched Seattle's lead to four points with 2:24 left.

Brunson and Little exchanged baskets 48 seconds apart, and Bird's 3 with 42 seconds remaining sealed the Storm's win.

Game 3 is Tuesday night in Minneapolis.

The winner will face Los Angeles in the conference finals.

Lauren Jackson hit a 3 from the right side for Seattle



Seattle Storm's Lauren Jackson (15) and Sue Bird (10) react after Jackson tied the score in Game 2 of the WNBA basketball first-round playoff series against the Minnesota Lynx in Seattle on Sunday, Sept. 30, 2012.
Associated Press

that tied the score at 70-all with 1.1 seconds left in regulation.

Taj McWilliams-Franklin made 1 of 2 two free throws with 11 seconds that put Minnesota up three, setting up Jackson's tying shot.

Jackson, who shot 4 for 17, was scoreless on 0-for-6 shooting in the first half and had all nine of her points in the third and fourth quarters. She fouled out with 40 seconds to go in the first overtime.

Monica Wright's jumper put the Lynx up 72-70 with 4:07 left in the first extra period, and Little tied with a layup 50 seconds later.

Brunson hit two free throws with 2:09 to go, and then made another with 40 seconds remaining in the period — when Jackson fouled out — to put the Lynx up three.

Wright then hit her tying

3, and Augustus missed a jumper with 2.1 seconds to go, sending the game to another extra period.

The Storm trailed 57-47 with 3 1/2 minutes remaining in the third quarter before using an 18-6 run to take a two-point lead on Little's layup with 3:12 left in regulation.

The Lynx ended a scoreless stretch of more than four minutes when Brunson converted a putback to tie the score at 65-all with 1:31 remaining.

She made a jumper nearly a minute later and Whalen made two free throws with 17.6 to go to put the Lynx up 69-65.

Bird's jumper pulled the Storm within two with 12 seconds left.

The Lynx called a timeout and Tanisha Wright fouled McWilliams-Franklin on the ensuing inbounds play in Minnesota's offensive end.

Personal Health:

Vigilance about the dangers of delirium

JANE E. BRODY
© 2012 New York Times

You don't have to be elderly, or even very old, to develop delirium, a kind of brain attack often accompanied by hallucinations, agitation and disorientation that can exacerbate illness, increase medical costs and even hasten death.

Experts say delirium could be prevented in up to 40 percent of cases if doctors, nurses and patients' families were aware of its causes and made small but meaningful changes in how patients are treated. Prompt recognition of the symptoms and proper management can shorten the duration of the episode, alleviate suffering and reduce costs.

At least 1 in 5 hospital patients over 65 experiences delirium-related complications, some of which — like worsened dementia — may never completely resolve. Yet, more often than not, delirium is misdiagnosed and mistreated.

Dr. Bree Johnston, a geriatrician at the University of California, San Francisco, tells of a woman, 70, with a history of bipolar disorder who became increasingly depressed, then agitated and uncooperative. She was taken to the emergen-

cy room, where a consulting psychiatrist prescribed clonazepam, a benzodiazepine sedative that only made things worse. She became uncontrollable and lapsed in and out of con-

trition, and an imbalance of electrolytes like sodium or potassium. Anyone with mild cognitive disorder or dementia is at increased risk, and cognitive dysfunction can worsen abruptly

hip surgery, her 85-year-old mother became disoriented, complaining about the lack of amenities in her "hotel" room. Soon she was tugging at the sheets, saying repeatedly, "We have to clean up this mess!" Eventually she had to be restrained. A reader told me that when she had knee surgery in her 80s she suffered from terrible hallucinations, feared everyone and could not recapture reality when she awoke.

"In my nightmares," she wrote, "I saw nurses digging their long nails into my flesh because they accused me of trying to seduce the doctor. On other nights they left me alone in the middle of a wilderness to sit and cry."

About one-third of patients over 70 experience delirium during hospitalization. Rates are higher among those having surgery or treatment in the intensive care unit, where nothing is familiar, there is no difference between night and day, sleep is often disrupted, and patients are subjected to frightening noises, equipment and procedures.

An ICU patient at the Johns Hopkins Hospital told of trying to get a crystal to the "good" aliens she saw in her mind but being thwarted by a robot. □



About 20 percent of hospital patients over 65 experience delirium-related complications, but with prompt recognition and proper management episodes can be shortened, suffering alleviated and costs reduced.

(Yvetta Fedorova/The New York Times)

sciousness.

When the woman was hospitalized, doctors discovered that the real cause of her delirium was a mild heart attack. Proper treatment gradually reversed her brain disorder.

MANY CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES

Conditions that can trigger delirium include urinary tract infection, thyroid or kidney dysfunction, a coronary event or stroke, malnu-

following an attack.

Certain medications, like benzodiazepines, can cause or contribute to the extreme confusion characteristic of delirium. Other drugs that have been linked to delirium include antihistamines, muscle relaxants, narcotic painkillers and even some antibiotics. Just being hospitalized can result in delirium, as Susan Seliger recounted last year in *The New Old Age*, a New York Times blog. After

Length of Herceptin cancer treatment supported

ANDREW POLLACK
© 2012 New York Times

Even as Herceptin has become a hugely successful breast cancer drug, doctors have been troubled by a nagging question that has billion-dollar implications: How long should patients be treated with it?

Now the results of two closely watched studies announced Monday at a European cancer conference suggest an answer: Neither a shorter nor a longer duration of treatment is better at staving off a recurrence of cancer than the current standard of one year.

The results mean that Roche, the drug's manufacturer, has probably dodged a bullet, because a shift to shorter treatment could have meant the loss of \$1 billion or more in sales. But Roche is also losing out on a windfall that would have resulted from a recommendation of longer treatment.

Herceptin, which has a wholesale price of about \$54,000 a year in the United States, had global sales of 5.25 billion Swiss francs in 2011 (about \$5.6 billion). Most use of the drug is aimed at reducing the chance that the cancer will come back after a patient with early stage breast cancer has surgery to remove the tumor.

One of the studies, sponsored by Roche itself, tested whether two years of treatment would be better than one. The study found no difference in the rate at which cancer recurred or in how long the patients lived. The results were to be presented Monday at the annual meeting of the European Society for Medical Oncology in Vienna.

The French National Cancer Institute studied whether six months of treatment would be as good as one year. If so, that would save insurers, government health programs and patients

huge sums of money, and also possibly reduce the incidence of side effects from Herceptin, which can include heart problems.

The women who were treated for six months had a 28 percent greater risk of recurrence than those treated for a year. Strictly speaking, by the statistical measures used in the study, it could not be totally ruled out that six months of treatment might be roughly equivalent to a year. But the results do not seem likely to shift the standard of care to shorter treatment.

Still, efforts to find ways to use less Herceptin may not be over. It is possible that certain subgroups of patients would do just as well with shorter treatment. An analysis of such subsets will be presented in December, Xavier Pivot, an investigator in the trial and professor at the Universite de Franche-Comte', said in the news release from the European oncology society. □

Peanut butter recall includes major retailers

MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A recall of peanut butter and other nut products has some of the country's largest grocery stores pulling store-brand products off their shelves.

New Mexico-based Sunland Inc. has expanded its recall of peanut butter and almond butter to include cashew butters, tahini and blanched and roasted peanut products. The company, which sells its nuts and nut butters to large groceries and other food distributors around the country, recalled products under multiple brand names last month after salmonella illnesses were linked to Trader Joe's Creamy Salted Valencia Peanut Butter, one of the brands it manufactures. In addition to Trader Joe's, the recall includes some nut butters and nut products sold at Whole Foods Market, Target, Safeway, Fresh & Easy, Giant Food, Harry and David, Sprouts, Heinen's, Stop & Shop Supermarket Company and several other stores.

Some of the stores used Sunland ingredients in items they prepared and packaged themselves.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said there are now 30 salmonella illnesses in 19 states that can be traced to the Trader Joe's peanut butter.

Some of the brand names included in the recall are Target's Archer Farms, Safeway's Open Nature, Earth Balance, Fresh & Easy, Late July, Heinen's, Joseph's, Natural Value, Naturally More, Peanut Power Butter, Serious Food, SnacLite Power, Sprouts Farmers Market, Sprouts, Sunland and Dogsbutter.

Sunland's recall includes 101 products, and several retailers have issued additional recalls including items made with Sunland ingredients. □



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Sony-Olympus alliance aims for high-tech surgery

**YURI KAGEYAMA
AP Business Writer**

TOKYO (AP) — Sony's new alliance with scandal-tarnished Olympus will focus on producing endoscopes and other surgical tools packed with the Japanese electronic maker's three-dimensional imaging and super-clear "4K" display technologies. Sony Corp. President Kazuo Hirai said it's not clear when the alliance's first products will become available. He acknowledged that medical equipment requires special regulatory approval that will take longer and be a learning curve for Sony whose expertise is in gadgets and movies. "This is a challenge in a new sector," Hirai told reporters at the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce in a joint press conference with Olympus Corp. President Hiroyuki Sasa. "There was a lot of talk on whether we could go at it alone."

But Sony decided it couldn't and felt that risks could be lowered if the two Japanese companies joined forces in the effort to turn medical equipment into one of the pillars of Sony's sprawling business, Hirai said.

Sony's empire includes consumer electronics, movies, music, games and banking. The company's sheer size and its apparent inability to produce long promised "synergies" among its divisions have often been criticized.

Technology such as 3D and the futuristic displays known as 4K have not yet produced big results in consumer electronics products such as TVs. TV sets with 3D images require viewers to wear special glasses and

haven't caught on. Sony has shown a 4K TV image, which is more fine and dazzling than high-definition TV, but it is unclear whether such an expensive product will catch on.

The alliance, announced Friday, calls for Sony to invest 50 billion yen (\$640 million) to become the top shareholder in Olympus, with an 11 percent stake. Olympus needs to shore up its finances after covering up massive losses dating back to the 1990s. The scandal surfaced only after its British chief executive Michael Woodford turned whistleblower and raised questions about dubious investments. Woodford was later fired.

Hirai said Sony is aiming to control more than 20 percent of the medical-equipment-for-surgery market by 2020, when the sector is expected to grow to 330 billion yen (\$4 billion).

The companies are planning also to cooperate in the digital camera area, where they have been rivals. Sasa said cost savings would be likely by sharing parts.

Of Sony's 50 billion yen (\$640 million) investment, about half will go into developing endoscopes equipped with 3D and 4K technology, Sasa said. Olympus is the world's biggest maker of endoscopes, which are special devices that enter the body to look inside organs and can be used to carry out surgery. Olympus is also known for its cameras.

Sony needs a turnaround after reporting losses for four straight years as it fell behind in portable music players, flat-panel TVs and smartphones. Sony's red



Sony Corp. President and Chief Executive Officer Kazuo Hirai, left, speaks during a press conference with President of Olympus Corp. Hiroyuki Sasa, right, in Tokyo, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012.

Associated Press

ink for the latest fiscal year through March was the worst in its 66-year history.

A report Friday by Barclays in Tokyo said the deal was a big plus for Olympus but

not much of a boost for Sony, although it said that using Sony's sensor and digital image technology in the medical sector held great promise.

Sony stock inched down 0.2 percent on Monday. Olympus gained 1.3 percent.

Olympus and its three former executives pleaded guilty in a Tokyo court last week on charges of falsifying financial reports, involving elaborate schemes using overseas bank accounts, paper companies and transactions controlled behind-the-scenes — all to keep massive losses off company books. □

Russia pushes Facebook to open research center

MOSCOW (AP) — Facebook head Mark Zuckerberg was in Moscow on Monday, where top officials were pressing him to expand the company's operations in Russia. Russia's communications minister tweeted that Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev urged the social media giant's founder to abandon plans to lure away Russian programmers and instead open a research center in Moscow.

A Facebook spokeswoman, who refused to be named because she wasn't authorized to discuss the matter with the media, said the company has no immediate expansion plans for Russia.

Zuckerberg, who ditched his trademark hoodie and jeans for a suit and tie for his meeting with Medve-



Russian Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev shakes hands with Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, left, at the Gorki residence outside Moscow, Russia, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012.

Associated Press

dev, was visiting Russia on a world tour of programming contests to identify new talent.

Russian Web companies often command larger shares of the domestic market than their U.S. counterparts. Facebook has roughly 9 million users in Russia,

while domestic clone VK has around 34 million.

Medvedev has cultivated a tech-friendly image since launching his modernization program while president of Russia from 2008 until this May, when Vladimir Putin returned for his third term as president. □

US stocks rise following expansion in manufacturing

JOSHUA FREED
AP Business Writer

U.S. stocks mostly rose on Monday as growth in manufacturing provided more evidence that the economy may be picking up, or at least not getting any worse. The gains came after news that U.S. manufacturing grew in September for the first time in four months. The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers, also said its gauge of manufacturing employment rose following a decline in August. That's a hopeful sign that the government's monthly employment report, due out Friday, could come in better than analysts have been expecting. Also Monday, the government said U.S. builders spent more on home construction in August, the latest positive sign for the housing market. Investors are looking for

signs that there will be more workers with money to spend, said Jerry Webman, chief economist for OppenheimerFunds Inc. That can create a "virtuous cycle" that generates its own fuel for a recovery.

"If you're going to manufacture more you're going to employ more people, and if you employ more people you're going to pay them money, and they're going to buy some stuff," helping the economy,

Webman said.

It was still a choppy day on Wall Street. The manufacturing report came out half an hour after trading began, and sent stocks sharply higher. The Dow Jones industrial average rose as much as 161 points and the Standard & Poor's 500 index rose as much as 1.1 percent.

But market indexes gave up most of their gains in the afternoon. The decline started after Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said the Fed needs to keep interest rates low because the economy isn't growing fast enough to reduce high unemployment. Bernanke made the remarks in a speech to the Economic Club of Indiana.

It wasn't clear whether investors were reacting directly to Bernanke's remarks or just taking profits from a morning in which

stocks showed their strongest gains in two weeks. Monday was only the third day since Sept. 17 that the S&P 500 has risen.

The S&P closed 0.3 percent higher, rising 3.82 points to 1,444.49. The Dow rose 77.98 points to close at 13,515.11. The Nasdaq composite fell 2.70 points to close at 3,113.53.

Goldman Sachs jumped \$3.18, or 2.8 percent, to \$116.86 after Barron's wrote that investors are too pessimistic on the investment bank's prospects.

Other financial stocks rose, too. Bank of America rose 13 cents, or 1.5 percent, to \$8.96, and JPMorgan Chase rose 49 cents, or 1.2 percent, to \$40.97.

Monday was the first day of trading of the fourth quarter, and the early gains were a welcome change from the way the last quarter ended. U.S. indices fell on Friday for the fifth day out of six.

Quincy Krosby, market strategist at Prudential Financial, said investors believe that the news about the economy has stopped getting worse. Besides the U.S. manufacturing news on Monday, she noted that recent data from China suggests that manufacturing has improved there as well.

"The numbers were still weak, but they were not as bad as before," Krosby said. □



Jack Knox positions a hot spindle being shape at Solmet Technologies in Canton, Ohio. Manufacturing grew in the U.S. for the first time in four months, buoyed by a jump in new orders in September. The increase was a hopeful sign that the economy is improving. The Institute for Supply Management, a trade group of purchasing managers, said Monday, Oct. 1, 2012, that its index of factory activity rose to 51.5. That's up from 49.6 in August. (AP Photo/Mark Duncan)

US builders boost housing spending

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. builders spent more to construct homes in August, further evidence of a housing rebound. Still, the increase couldn't offset cuts in public projects and commercial real estate.

Overall construction spending dipped 0.7 percent in August from July, the Commerce Department reported Monday. It was the second straight monthly decline. The decline lowered construction spending to a season-

ally adjusted annual rate of \$834.4 billion. That's nearly 12 percent above a 12-year low hit in February 2011 and roughly half of what's considered healthy. Spending on residential projects rose 0.9 percent in August. That pushed residential spending to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$273.5 billion, nearly 18 percent above the level from a year ago.

Spending on single-family homes increased in August for the fifth straight month, while apartment construction spending rose for the 10th month in

a row. Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist for Capital Economics, said the increase in residential spending "provides more evidence that the housing recovery is gathering pace. Unfortunately, the housing sector is not large enough to set the overall economy alight." Spending on office buildings, commercial projects such as shopping centers and hotels all fell in August. That lowered private nonresidential activity 1.7 percent to an annual rate of \$288.7 billion, or 7.2 percent higher than a year ago. □

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In August, small biz lending up; 2nd straight gain

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. business is looking a little brighter at smaller companies. A survey released Monday shows that they borrowed more money during August — a sign that business owners are becoming more confident about the economy. The survey by PayNet, a research firm that tracks loans to small business, shows that lending rose 3 percent, the second straight monthly increase. Prior to July, lending had fallen in five out of six months. The Thomson Reuters PayNet Small Business index rose to 109.9 in August from 106 in July. The index was just shy of its high point following the recession, 110, reached last December. However, the index was inflated that month by an expiring tax break that encouraged many small businesses to borrow money to buy or lease equipment. After the tax break expired, lending dropped sharply. PayNet bases its index on new commercial loans and leases granted to small businesses by U.S. lenders. The report is encouraging because small businesses had cut back their borrowing because of uncertainty about the economy and their own sales. If companies continue to increase their borrowing, economists believe they will also increase their hiring. The index was released as there was more good news about small businesses. The Institute for Supply Management said Monday that manufacturing increased in the U.S. for the first time in four months during September. The vast majority of manufacturers are small businesses. More clues about the health of small business will come later this week. The payroll company ADP and the National Federation of Independent Business on Thursday release their reports on small business employment during September. □

Bernanke defends Fed rate policies

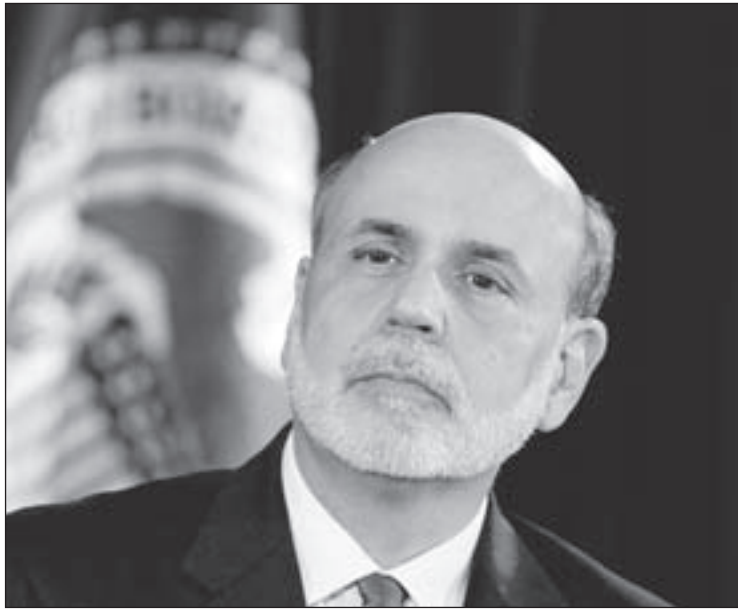
MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chairman Ben Bernanke offered a wide-ranging defense Monday of the Federal Reserve's bold policies to stimulate the still-weak U.S. economy. The Fed needs to drive down long-term borrowing rates because the economy isn't growing fast enough to reduce high unemployment, Bernanke said in a speech to the Economic Club of Indiana. The unemployment rate is 8.1 percent. Low rates could also help shrink the federal budget deficit by easing the government's borrowing costs and generating tax revenue from stronger growth, Bernanke argued. The chairman cautioned Congress against adopting a law that would allow it to monitor the Fed's interest-rate discussions. The House has passed legislation to broaden Congress' investigative authority over the Fed — authority that would include a review of interest-rate policymaking. The Sen-

ate hasn't adopted the bill. Bernanke warned that such a step would improperly inject political pressure into the Fed's private delib-

meeting to launch a new mortgage-bond buying program. The goal is to try to drive low mortgage rates even lower to encourage

The average rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage is already 3.4 percent, a record low. But some economists think home loan rates could fall further, in part because long-term Treasury yields are much lower: The rate on the 10-year Treasury is just 1.62 percent. After its September meeting, the Fed said it would keep buying mortgage bonds until the job market showed substantial improvement. It also decided to keep its benchmark short-term rate near zero through at least mid-2015. In his speech Monday, Bernanke sought to reassure investors that the Fed's timetable for keeping its short-term rate ultra-low "doesn't mean we expect the economy to be weak through 2015." Rather, he said the Fed expects to keep rates low well after the economy strengthens. Bernanke spoke two days before President Barack Obama and GOP challenger Mitt Romney will hold a debate in which the economy is the central theme. □



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke speaks during a news conference in Washington. Chairman Ben Bernanke is offering a sharp defense Monday, Oct. 1, 2012, of the Federal Reserve's bold policies to stimulate the weak economy, while cautioning Congress to respect its private discussions. Bernanke says the Fed needs to drive down borrowing rates low because the economy isn't growing fast enough to reduce high unemployment. The unemployment rate is 8.1 percent.

(AP Photo/Manuel Balce Ceneta)

erations and affect the officials' decisions. His speech follows the Fed's decision at its Sept. 12-13

home buying. Increased home sales could help spur hiring and accelerate economic growth.

Amex paying \$112.5M in late-fee case

MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — American Express Co. is paying \$112.5 million in refunds and fines to settle regulators' accusations that it charged unlawful late fees and deceived customers to pressure them to pay off old debts or buy extra credit card services. The company agreed to the settlements announced Monday by four federal agencies, including the Federal Reserve and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, and Utah regulators. American Express is refunding \$85 million to about 250,000 customers and is paying \$27.5 million in civil fines. The agencies said American Express violated federal laws prohibiting deceptive practices by using

false statements to get customers to settle old debts. The regulators say that included falsely telling customers that if they agreed



American Express is paying \$112.5 million in refunds and fines to settle regulators' accusations that it charged illegal late fees and deceived customers to pressure them to pay off old debts or buy extra credit card services.

(AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)

to settlements to partially pay off their debts, the remaining balance would be forgiven. The violations were said to have occurred from 2003 to this past spring.

The director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Richard Cordray, said in a statement that the company violated consumer-protection laws "at all stages of the game — from the moment a consumer shopped for a card to the moment the consumer got a phone call about long overdue debt." American Express also charged late fees on some credit cards based on a percentage of the debt owed, a violation of a 2009 law prohibiting certain credit card practices, the regulators said. They said customers were sometimes led to believe they would get \$300 as well as bonus points if they signed up for Amex's "Blue Sky" credit card program. Customers who met the conditions didn't receive the promised \$300, ac-

cording to the agencies. In addition, they said the company: —Unlawfully discriminated against consumers applying for new card accounts on the basis of age. —Failed to report customer disputes over billing to the consumer-credit reporting agencies. New York-based American Express also agreed to end the practices and to hire independent auditors to ensure the company's compliance with consumer-protection laws. The company said most of the \$85 million in refunds is related to late fees and debt collection practices. Customers entitled to refunds will be notified as soon as possible, it said. Amex also said in a statement that it has put together plans to correct each of the violations cited by the regulators. □

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



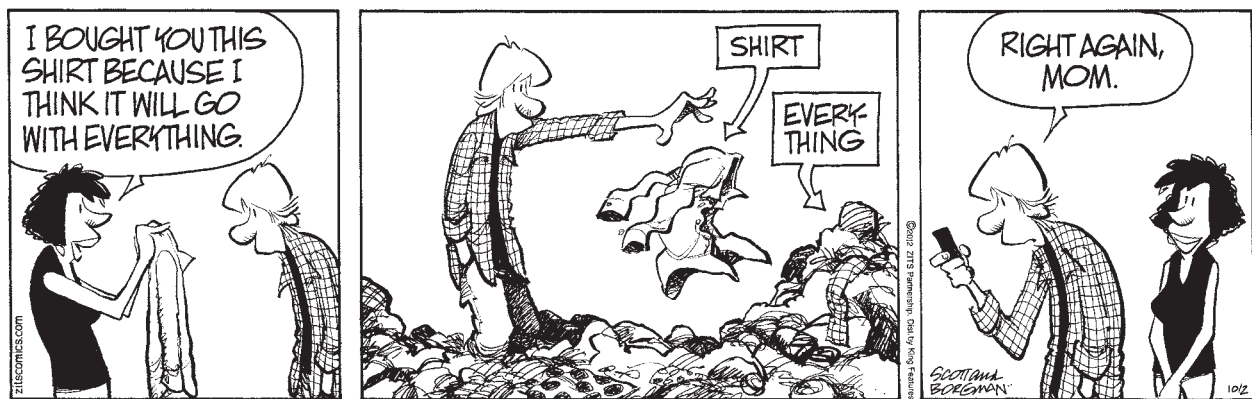
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			8		9			
1		8				2		3
	6	4				8	7	
			9		8			
	5			1			6	
			7		5			
	9	7				3	2	
2		1				6		8
			5		4			

Difficulty Level ★★

10/02

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

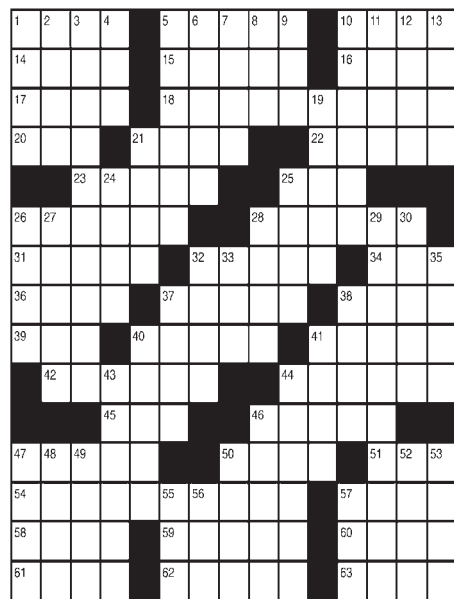
6	4	7	2	9	1	3	5	8
1	5	8	6	7	3	4	2	9
2	9	3	5	8	4	6	1	7
8	1	2	4	6	7	9	3	5
9	7	6	8	3	5	2	4	1
4	3	5	1	2	9	8	7	6
5	2	4	9	1	6	7	8	3
3	8	9	7	5	2	1	6	4
7	6	1	3	4	8	5	9	2

ACROSS

- Pillar
- Car accident
- Trudge
- Pitcher
- Japanese three-line verse
- Wild nighttime party
- ___ on; have confidence in
- Extra
- ___ up; spend
- Jacuzzis
- Sniff
- Provide food for a banquet
- Headwear with a visor
- Real
- Dishes
- Giving a signal, as to an actor
- Purple shade
- Regulation
- Horse's gait
- Desert wanderer
- Greek cheese
- Item for confession
- Chilly
- Johnny Cash's "A Boy ___ Sue"
- Get away
- Flow back
- Pack animal
- Ambulance's blaring device
- Chris of tennis
- Small valley
- Sir ___ Newton
- Male deer
- Mom's sister
- ___ in; wearing
- Skits
- Pierre or Marie
- Drama
- Basic; fundamental
- Completely full
- Easy stride
- Mischief maker
- Walk along the water's edge
- ___ in the bud; stops early on
- Save ___; retain one's dignity

DOWN

- Lima's country
- Has debts
- Choices



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

10/2/12

Monday's Puzzle Solved

B	E	R	T	S	C	H	A	D	P	O	U	R
A	W	A	R	E	I	O	T	A	E	D	N	A
B	E	G	U	N	T	O	E	S	R	I	C	K
A	S	S	I	S	T	E	D	H	A	S	S	L
A	L	U	M	N	A	O	U	S	T	S		
C	O	N	G	I	L	L	S	S	T	A	S	H
A	C	I	D	L	A	D	E	N	S	W	A	Y
D	O	T	E	D	B	E	S	E	T	E	L	M
			C	O	W	E	R	H	A	R	D	E
U	N	R	A	V	E	L	B	R	I	E		
L	O	A	D	E	R	F	O	U	L	E	D	U
C	O	M	E	L	L	A	O	B	E	S	E	
E	S	P	N	E	A	R	R	O	L	E	S	
R	E	S	T	E	N	D	S	K	I	R	T	

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10/2/12

- Very unkind
- Bookish fellow
- Gerald Ford's successor
- Raised strips
- Wait on
- Benedict; breakfast order
- Biden, for short
- Sicilian volcano
- Regretted
- Ladd or Arkin
- Yearn
- Bath with seats
- Stein or Stiller
- In a ___; shortly

Clothing-optional days add to English Garden's appeal

SARAH LYALL

© 2012 New York Times

MALMESBURY, England – Sunday was the last "clothing-optional" day of the season at Abbey House Gardens in this ancient Wiltshire village, and a cold and torrential rain had confounded many visitors' clothes-free plans.

Not Roger Monroe, a retired court stenographer, who gamely took off his pants, sipped his cup of tea and explained that being here allowed him to indulge in two pastimes beloved of more English people than one might imagine: being in a garden, and not wearing anything at the time. He cannot do this at home on account of his uptight neighbors, he explained, and so he weeds and trims while covering potentially alarming body parts with a tie-dyed sarong he bought at a garage sale.

"I am as near to naked as I can be while I cut the grass," Monroe said. At Abbey House, though, he can admire the flowers while dispensing with the sarong.

Abbey House Gardens, which draws tens of thousands of visitors a year to this village not far from the Welsh border, is known for its 2,000 varieties of roses, its spectacular mix of landscaped and wild paths, and the six days during the summer when people can wear clothes if they want to, or not. Its proprietors are Ian and Barbara Pollard, who often do not want to wear clothes and who are known as the Naked Gardeners.

So who was the man wielding a garden implement and concealed under a dirt-encrusted shirt and pants?

"I'm a clothed gardener," said the man hastily, identifying himself as Luke Hollingsworth, Abbey House employee. He said he did not mind other people's nudity, as long as he did not have to be nude himself.

The real Naked Gardener, Pollard, said that his naked revelation had occurred 44 years earlier, when he was 23, broke and doing yard

work.

"I was down to my last pair of shorts, and it was literally a choice between buying clothes or putting food on the table for my family," said Pollard, perched gingerly on the edge of a

About half an hour later, Pollard related, the voice of a neighbor – an old lady who lived with her sister – drifted over the wall.

"Would you like a cup of tea?" the lady asked. And then she said: "I don't think



From left: David Shelly, Ron Law and Barry Graanop walk in the Abbey House Gardens on the last clothes-optional day of the season in Malmesbury, England, Sept. 23, 2012. The gardens is known for the six days during the summer when people can wear clothes if they want to, or not. (Lynsey Addario/The New York Times)

kitchen chair, dressed in a pair of Wellington boots, a shirt opened over a mesh undershirt, and nothing else. "I thought, 'If I'm going to wreck my clothes anyway, why not just take them off and carry on?'" It was a popular decision.

my sister has seen a naked man since her fiance was killed in the war." (World War I, that is.)

Fast forward to 1994, when the Pollards bought Abbey House, restored its garden (naked) and opened it to the public. They started

the clothing-optional days after the garden was featured on the BBC's most popular gardening program. Viewers began calling, Pollard said, and asking: "You garden naked. Can we come and visit your garden naked, too?" These occasions draw as many as 600 visitors at a time, Pollard said, of whom about 70 percent are regular nudists, 10 percent are non-nudists trying it out to see what it is like and 20 percent are "textiles," meaning that they have clothes on.

The usefulness of such a haven became clear last year, when a 62-year-old man in Gloucestershire named Donald Sprigg was arrested and charged with upsetting his neighbors and "outraging public decency" by gardening in the nude. The charges were dropped, but the case sent a frisson of fear among nude gardeners.

Another visitor, Barry Gree-nop, a building controls manager, said he had first visited Abbey House with his gardening club and then returned, curious, for the next clothing-optional day. Strolling unencumbered through nature so revolutionized his outlook, he said, that he took up naked bicycling.

Nudists are apparently converted one skeptic at a time. □

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This May 10, 2012 file photo shows Will Kopelman, left, and Drew Barrymore attending the New York City Ballet's 2012 Spring Gala performance in New York.

Associated Press

Drew Barrymore gives birth to her first child

NEW YORK (AP) — Drew Barrymore is a mom. The 37-year-old actress and her husband, Will Kopelman, welcomed a baby girl named Olive Barrymore Kopelman on Sept. 26. A statement from Chris Miller at Barrymore's production company, Flower Films, said the baby was born

"happy, healthy and welcomed by the whole family." The statement didn't provide specifics on the birth.

Barrymore wed Kopelman, an art consultant, in June. He's the son of former Channel CEO Arie Kopelman. She is the granddaughter of screen legend John Barrymore. □

'Beasts of the Southern Wild' ineligible at SAG

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The independent-film hit "Beasts of the Southern Wild" will be ineligible for the Screen Actors Guild Awards because its stars were not professional actors. Guild officials said Monday that "Beasts" was not made under provisions of the union's contracts. The producers have until Oct. 25 to bring the film into guild compliance to become eligible for the awards, though that likely would mean paying the actors more money. A spokesman for Fox Searchlight, which released the film domestically, said the company would not try to bring "Beasts" in line with SAG contract rules to qualify for the awards. Director Benh Zeitlin cast locals in his film set in rural Louisiana, including his two stars, first-time actors Quvenzhané Wallis as a



This June 25, 2012 file photo shows Benh Zeitlin, director and co-writer of the movie "Beasts of the Southern Wild," arriving at the premiere of the movie at the Joy Theater in New Orleans.

Associated Press

6-year-old wild child, and Dwight Henry as her father. "We appreciate and honor the spirit in which the film was produced and the way it was made," Fox Searchlight Presidents Stephen Gilula and Nancy Utley said in a statement. "It's truly an original." □

Adele confirms she has recorded Bond theme tune

LONDON (AP) — Adele has confirmed she has co-written and performed the theme to the upcoming James Bond movie "Skyfall." The singer was initially unsure whether she wanted to take the project, according to news posted to the official James Bond website Monday. "There's a lot of instant spotlight and pressure when it comes to a Bond song," she was quoted as saying. "But I fell in love with the script. ... It was also a lot of fun writing to a brief, something I've never done which made it exciting." The song was written by Adele and Paul Hepworth, who co-wrote her hit "Rolling in the Deep." It was recorded at London's famed Abbey Road Studios. Adele posted a picture on



In this Feb. 12, 2012 file photo, Adele accepts the award for record of the year for "Rolling in the Deep" during the 54th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles. Associated Press

her Twitter feed Monday of what appears to be the sheet music cover page for the song, credited to Adele

— as A. Adkins — and Hepworth. Rumors have swirled for months that the Grammy-winning British singer had recorded the theme, but there had been no official announcement from producers until Monday. The song will be available on Adele's official site on Friday, coinciding with the 50th anniversary of the release of "Dr. No," the first Bond movie. The track was available for pre-order at iTunes starting Monday. The film, Daniel Craig's third Bond adventure, opens in Britain Oct. 26 and in the U.S. Nov. 9. The cast includes Javier Bardem, Albert Finney, Ralph Fiennes and Naomie Harris. The theme to the last Bond film, "Quantum of Solace," was performed by Jack White and Alicia Keys. □

'Family Guy' creator Seth MacFarlane to host Oscars



This Sept. 23, 2012 file photo shows Seth MacFarlane presenting an award at the 64th Primetime Emmy Awards at the Nokia Theatre in Los Angeles. MacFarlane will host the 85th Academy Awards on Sunday, Feb. 24, 2013 on the ABC Television Network. Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Family Guy" creator Seth MacFarlane will host the 2013 Oscars ceremony in Los Angeles. First-time Academy Awards producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron made the announcement Monday and said they're "thrilled"

about their choice. "His performing skills blend perfectly with our ideas for making the show entertaining and fresh," the producers said in a statement. MacFarlane is best known for his animated TV shows "Family Guy" and "American Dad." He made his

big-screen directorial debut earlier this year with "Ted," which took in more than \$420 million at the box office. The 38-year-old entertainer also hosted the season opener of "Saturday Night Live" last month and released an album of big-band tunes from the 1940s and 1950s last year. This is his first time hosting the Academy Awards. MacFarlane called the opportunity "an overwhelming privilege." "My thoughts upon hearing the news were, one, I will do my utmost to live up to the high standards set forth by my predecessors; and two,

I hope they don't find out I hosted the Charlie Sheen Roast," he said. Nominations for the 85th annual Oscars will be announced on Jan. 10 — nearly a week earlier than traditionally revealed and ahead of the Golden Globe Awards. The Oscars will be presented Feb. 24. □



Actors Felicity Huffman, left, and William H. Macy pose at the celebration of the reopening of the Atlantic Theater Company, Monday, Oct. 1, 2012, after an \$8.3 renovation project in New York. Associated Press

MARK KENNEDY

AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP)

— Stage actors always seem to get the attention in New York. On Monday, it was the turn of the stages themselves to take a bow.

The Pearl Theatre had a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate moving into its new home near Times Square, while the Atlantic Theater Company reopened its main stage in the Chelsea neighborhood after an \$8.3 million renovation. Atlantic founding members and married couple Felicity Huffman and William H. Macy were on hand to celebrate the company's roomier

home, singing every title produced over the Atlantic's 27-year life as Macy strummed a ukulele.

"It's a magnificent theater. New York is the better for it and there's going to be some magic in that place, trust me," Macy said outside the theater. "There's going to be a lot of magic made in those four walls."

The Atlantic, founded in 1985 by David Mamet and several New York University drama graduates, has produced more than 130 plays, including the Tony Award-winning productions of "Spring Awakening" and "The Beauty Queen of Leenane."

Its facelift included the

2 theater companies cheer as they open new stages

renovation of 6,300 square feet (585 square meters) of space containing the 199-seat main stage, the expansion of a 5,100-square-foot (474-square-meter) basement to create an enlarged lobby with new restrooms, a new box office, improved handicap access, a prop-building workshop, a costume shop and backstage support offices.

"It's like the brand new tree house you get to go into when you're 10 years old and you've been building it all summer with your dad. It's finally finished and you get to go in and sit and have your first cup of tea. That's what today is like. It's pretty fantastic," said Giancarlo Esposito, the "Breaking Bad" and "Homicide: Life on The Streets" star who has been a member of the company for almost 20 years.

Others stars who attended Atlantic's event included Raul Esparza, F. Murray Abraham, Eloise Mumford, Zach Grenier, Carolyn McCormick and Richard Kind. The first play to open in the new space will be the New York premiere of "Harper Regan" by Simon Stephens. It stars Atlantic member

Mary McCann and officially opens Oct. 10.

The Atlantic moved into its current home — a nineteenth century church in Chelsea — 22 years ago and felt it was time to modernize. "We never expected we would be here this long," said Neil Pepe, Atlantic's artistic director. "When we realized we were going to be here this long, we wanted to make this beautiful space even better and we wanted to make it more hospitable to the artists, the patrons, the audiences and the community." The Pearl has signed a 20-year lease on its new 160-seat home on 42nd Street, the same venue recently vacated by the Signature Theatre Company, which moved east along the street toward Times Square. Since its founding in 1984, the Pearl has bounced around several locations, including New York City Center in Midtown and St. Mark's Place downtown. It kicks off its first show in the new space Oct. 19 with "Figaro," a fresh adaptation of "The Marriage of Figaro" by Charles Morey.

J.R. Sullivan, the Pearl's

artistic director, said the move to a solid, high-tech building means the company can now plan for the future, a luxury from its hard-scrabble past when baby monitors were used in the dressing rooms to alert actors about their cues and the actors themselves passed out advertising fliers and took care of the theater's plumbing.

"It's not healthy to be peripatetic," he said. "We can now think ahead to a two- or three-year sequence of plays and let the seasons begin to connect. It can't help but make for a better company." Managing Director David Roberts said having the company's name in lights finally attached to a building cannot be underestimated. "It's the 29th season, so it's the eve of our 30th birthday. We're coming out of our youth, if you will, and really finding our place in New York." A benefit performance later of the comic revue "A Thurber Carnival" featured the talents of Jason Butler Harner, Jackie Hoffman, Elizabeth Marvel, Dakin Matthews, Annette O'Toole, Maryann Plunkett and Jay O. Sanders. □

Court trims verdict over 'Nash Bridges' profits

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY

AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP)

— A divided appellate court upheld Don Johnson's multimillion jury award over profits from the series "Nash Bridges" but cut its amount by more than \$8 million on Monday.

The California 2nd District Court of Appeal panel voted 2-1 to uphold a verdict that determined the actor was owed millions from the hit series, but the panel cut the amount from \$23.2 million down to \$15 million. The actor is still eligible to recoup interest on the award, which was originally calculated at more than \$28 million. The inter-



In this Thurs., Sept. 27, 2012 file photo, Don Johnson arrives at the Los Angeles Philharmonic's 2012 Opening Night Gala, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

est will now be added from date of the original verdict in July 2010.

The justices determined that jurors erred when

they took into account that Johnson might have earned interest payments while fighting the case, which ended in 2010 with

the multimillion verdict. The panel decided to add 5 percent interest to the original \$15 million amount they agreed Johnson should receive, according to the opinion released Monday. Johnson's award was appealed by the series' producers and financiers, Rysler Entertainment, 2929 Entertainment and Qualia Capital. One justice agreed with the companies that Johnson's verdict should be overturned because his claims were barred by the statute of limitations, but two justices sided with the actor.

"Nash Bridges" aired for six seasons on CBS.

"'Nash Bridges' has been my baby since its inception and I've fought for years for my interest under our contractual agreement," Johnson wrote in a statement, adding that he was gratified that the appeals court ruled in his favor. He sued over his stake in the show in February 2009. Defense attorneys handling the case were not immediately available for comment. The companies could appeal Monday's ruling to the California Supreme Court. They argued at trial that the series was costly to produce and that was why Johnson hadn't been paid more. □

Women Hurting Women



NICHOLAS D. KRISTOF
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Are female leaders better for the world's women?

It would be nice to think that women who achieve power would want to help women at the bottom. But one continuing global drama underscores that women in power can be every bit as contemptible as men.

Sheikh Hasina, prime minister of Bangladesh, is mounting a scorched-earth offensive against Muhammad Yunus, the founder of Grameen Bank and champion of the economic empowerment of women around the world. Yunus, 72, won a Nobel Peace Prize for his pioneering work in microfinance, focused on helping women lift their families out of poverty.

Yet Sheikh Hasina's government has already driven Yunus from his job as managing director of Grameen Bank. Worse, since last month, her government has tried to seize control of the bank from its 5.5 million small-time shareholders, almost all of them women, who collectively own more than 95 percent of the bank.

What a topsy-turvy picture: We see a woman who has benefited from evolving gender norms using her government powers to destroy the life's work of a man who has done as much for the world's most vulnerable women as anybody on earth.

The government has also started various investigations of Yunus and his finances and taxes, and his supporters fear that he might be arrested on some pretext or another.

"It's an insane situation," Yunus told me a few days ago at the Clinton Global Initiative in New York, sounding subdued instead of his normally exuberant self. "I just don't know how to deal with it." If the government succeeds in turning Grameen Bank into a government bank, Yunus said, "it is finished."

Sheikh Hasina, in New York for the U.N. General Assembly, initially agreed to be interviewed by me in a suite at the Grand Hyatt. At the last minute she canceled and refused to reschedule.

Perhaps none of this should be surprising. Metrics like girls' education and maternal mortality don't improve more when a nation is led by a woman. There is evidence that women matter as local leaders and on corporate boards, but that doesn't seem to have been true at the national level, at least not for the first cohort of female leaders

around the world.

Bangladesh is actually a prime example of the returns from investing in women. When it separated from Pakistan in 1971, it was a wreck. But it invested in girls' education, and today more than half of its high school students are female – an astonishing achievement for an impoverished Muslim country.

All those educated women formed the basis for Bangladesh's garment industry. They also had fewer births: The average Bangladeshi woman now has 2.2 children, down from 6 in 1980. Bringing women into the mainstream also seems to have soothed extremism, which is much less of a concern than in Pakistan (where female literacy in the tribal areas is only 3 percent).

To her credit, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has spoken up for Yunus: "I highly respect Muhammad Yunus, and I highly respect the work that he has done, and I am hoping to see it continue without being in any way undermined or affected by any government action," she said earlier this year. Two former secretaries of state, George Shultz and Madeleine Albright, have also called on Sheikh Hasina to back off.

She shows no sign of doing so. One theory is that she is paranoid and sees Yunus as a threat, especially since he made an abortive effort to enter politics in 2007. Another theory is that she is envious of his Nobel Peace Prize and resentful of his global renown.

Sheikh Hasina is disappointing in other ways. She has turned a blind eye to murders widely attributed to the security services. My Times colleague Jim Yardley wrote just this month about a labor leader, Aminul Islam, who had been threatened by security officers and whose tortured body was found in a pauper's grave. Yunus fans are signing a Change.org petition on his behalf, but I'd like to see more U.S. officials and politicians speak up for him. President Barack Obama, how about another photo op with Yunus?

I still strongly believe that we need more women in leadership posts at home and around the world, from presidential palaces to corporate boards. The evidence suggests that diverse leadership leads to better decision-making, and I think future generations of female leaders may be more attentive to women's issues than the first.

In any case, this painful episode in Bangladesh is a reminder that the struggle to achieve gender equality isn't simply a battle between the sexes.

It is far more subtle. Misogyny and indifference remain obstacles for women globally, but those are values that can be absorbed and transmitted by women as well as by men.

Contact Kristof at Facebook.com/Kristof, Twitter.com/Nick-Kristof or by mail at The New York Times, 620 Eighth Ave., New York, NY 10018. □



It Goes With Everything, Even Blue Hair



MAUREEN DOWD
© 2012 New York Times

SAVANNAH, Ga. – Growing up, I did not think of black as an alluring color.

When you misbehaved, nuns in black habits, brandishing rulers, bore down on you. When a relative died, my mom wore rustling black rayon.

When my Irish great-aunts went to work for rich American families, they wore black maids' uniforms. Our family dog, Scottie, bit anyone wearing black, even my brothers in their prom tuxedos.

Black was the color of despair, decadence, death, nightmares and vampire capes. It was the color, priests warned, that your soul would turn if you sinned.

But part of becoming a woman is realizing the mythic power of the little black dress. It makes you thinner and more chic, no matter how stunted your fashion sense, and gives you dash.

I first saw it in old movies: Rita Hayworth vamping in strapless black satin in "Gilda"; Marilyn Monroe sparkling in a barely-there Orry-Kelly beaded dress in "Some Like It Hot"; Natalie Wood winning Steve McQueen's heart with a low-cut black dress in "Love With the Proper Stranger." And of course, the gorgeous black Givenchy cocktail dress Audrey Hepburn wore munching a pastry in front of Tiffany's one morning – a look so embedded in the DNA of American culture that Tina Fey feyly evokes it on the cover of the new Entertainment Weekly, complete

with upswept hair, long gloves, cigarette holder and cat curled around her neck.

Others consider that image the shimmering height of the LBD, or little black dress. But not Andre Leon Talley, the imperious impresario of a new exhibition on the colorful subject at his eponymous gallery in the art museum of the Savannah College of Art and Design.

"It's not the most iconic or important little black dress ever made," dismissively notes the fashion czar, who himself favors comfortable yurt-like garments and size-15 Uggs. (He owns nine pairs of black and bark Uggs.) He points in the direction of an LBD he finds far more compelling. I'm startled to see a male mannequin gussied up in a see-through black lace dress worn over spanking white boxers, black socks and shoes that would have dazzled Louis XIV, the Carrie Bradshaw of his day.

"This is what Marc Jacobs wore to the Met Costume Gala, a man-dress from Comme des Garçons," Talley says. "It was a seminal moment in style for a man to go there, perfectly accessorized with diamante buckled black matte leather court shoes that he designed himself." No doubt.

Talley, a contributing editor at Vogue and a correspondent at "Entertainment Tonight," said he was inspired to mount the show after seeing Anna Wintour in a classic black Chanel dress, now framed in a shadow box on the cherry-red wall.

It was Coco Chanel and Vogue, after all, who popularized "the little nothings," as they were known then, on Oct. 1, 1926, when the magazine published an illustration of a blouson black crepe de Chine sheath, predicting that every woman would aspire to have it in her closet, just as every man wanted a Model T in the garage.

"Chanel craved the power and independence of men," says Gioia Diliberto, who has written a novel and a play about the couturiere and who contributed an essay to the show's cata-

log. "So in her designs, she borrowed the ease, comfort and muted palette of men's clothes to create a style of pared-down elegance for women that liberated them from furbelows and froufrou confections."

Talley says he collected a cavalcade of designer dresses from his friends in materials from "neoprene scuba diving fabric to latex to chicken feathers." (Really ostrich feathers.)

In the rows of black glamour can be found Whoopi Goldberg's Chado Ralph Rucci caftan – with a snake necklace strangling the mannequin's neck; Sarah Jessica Parker's buttery leather pleated Prabal Gurung; L'Wren Scott's own design, a sexy wool and lace number that she wore to the Golden Globes with her boyfriend, Mick Jagger; a Tom Ford Chantilly lace and beaded concoction based on Goya's portrait of the Duchess of Alba.

"Lady Gaga wore that with blue hair," Talley confides.

Renee Zellweger contributed a navy ribbon-candy-style dress.

"Sometimes you wear midnight blue as black," Talley opined.

I start to feel paranoid when my friend Andre offers a disquisition on how to identify a "good black" hue versus a "bad black" one, and which blacks don't match. I'd assumed black was black.

"You don't want a harsh black or a dead black that looks like an old bunker that's been oxidized through years of neglect in a barren warehouse," he says. "A good black is an electrifying black. It should be about dreams of beauty."

Gazing at my green T-shirt, Talley murmurs scornfully, "Sea foam, I suppose," before turning back to the inanimate but far more enticing mannequins. "When in doubt, you go to your best little black dress, not to your wimpy, seaweedy, outre-mer sea foam or your wretched yellow lemon drop."

He sums up the staying power of noir style with a line straight out of film noir: "It's just something that you know is right, even if it's wrong." □



A handout photo of the top half of "Weary Herakles," which was returned to Turkey by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. (Museum of Fine Arts, Boston via The New York Times)

DAN BILEFSKY

© 2012 New York Times

ISTANBUL – An aggressive campaign by Turkey to reclaim antiquities it says were looted has led in recent months to the return of an ancient sphinx and many golden treasures from the region's rich past. But it has also drawn condemnation from some of the world's largest museums, which call the campaign cultural blackmail. In their latest salvo, Turkish officials this summer filed a criminal complaint in the Turkish court system seeking an investigation into what they say was the illegal excavation of 18 objects that are now in the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Norbert Schimmel collection. Last year, Turkish officials recalled, Turkey's director-general of cultural heritage and museums, Murat Suslu, presented Met officials with a stunning ultimatum: prove the provenance of ancient figurines and golden bowls in the collection, or Turkey could halt lending treasures. Turkey says that threat has now gone into effect.

"We know 100 percent that these objects at the Met are from Anatolia," the Turkish region known for its ancient ruins, Suslu, an archaeologist, said in an interview. "We only want back what is rightfully ours."

Turkey's efforts have spurred an international debate about who owns antiquities after centuries of shifting borders. Museums like the Met, the Getty, the Louvre and the Pergamon in Berlin say their mission to display global art treasures is under siege from Turkey's tactics.

Museum directors say the repatriation drive seeks to alter accepted practices, like a widely embraced UNESCO convention that lets museums acquire objects that were outside their countries of origin before 1970. Although Turkey ratified the convention in 1981, it is now citing a 1906 Ottoman-era law – one that banned the export of artifacts – to claim any object removed after that date as its own.

Thievery and looting are wrong, Turkey says, no matter when they occurred. "Artifacts, just like people, animals or plants, have souls and historical memories," said Turkey's culture minister, Ertugrul Gunay. "When they are repatriated to their countries, the balance of nature will be restored."

Turkey is not alone in demanding the return of artifacts removed from its borders; Egypt and Greece have made similar demands of museums, and Italy persuaded the Met

Seeking return of art, Turkey jolts museums

to return an ancient bowl known as the Euphronios krater in 2006.

But Turkey's aggressive tactics, which come as the country has been asserting itself politically in the Middle East in the wake of the Arab Spring, have particularly alarmed museums. Officials here are refusing to lend treasures, delaying the licensing of archaeological excavations and publicly shaming museums. "The Turks are engaging in polemics and nasty politics," said Hermann Parzinger, president of the Prussian Cultural Heritage Foundation, which oversees the Pergamon. "They should be careful about making moral claims when their museums are full of looted treasures" acquired, he said, by the Ottomans in their centuries ruling parts of the Middle East and southeast Europe.

key's because it had been excavated on territory that belonged to Turkey at the time. Turkey's campaign has enjoyed notable success, however. Last year the Pergamon agreed to return a 3,000-year-old sphinx from the Hittite Empire that Turkey said had been taken to Germany for restoration in 1917. German officials said Turkey had threatened to block major archaeological projects if the sphinx did not come home.

But even after it had, the Germans complained, Turkey still declined to collaborate and refused to lend four objects for a current exhibition. Suslu indicated that the Pergamon had to return other disputed items before loans would resume. Parzinger said Turkey had no legal claim to the contested objects it says his museum has illegally, and

Westerners had been at the forefront of safeguarding Turkey's rich history.

"If all Westerners are just thieves and robbers," he asked, "then who has been restoring their cultural heritage?"

In another victory for Turkey, last month the University of Pennsylvania's Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology announced that it had agreed to lend indefinitely 24 artifacts to Turkey from ancient Troy whose murky provenance helped inspire the 1970 UNESCO convention. Turkey, in turn, promised future loans and collaboration with the university.

Some museum directors said that they feared that the surrender of the objects by the university, which acquired them in 1966, threatened to lead to a flood of further claims.

In September 2011, the Mu-



Visitors are reflected across from a sarcophagus believed to contain the remains of Alexander the Great, on display in Istanbul's Archaeology Museum, Sept. 6, 2012. An aggressive campaign by Turkey to reclaim antiquities it says were looted has led in recent months to the return of an ancient sphinx and many golden treasures from the region's rich past.

(Ayman Oghanna/The New York Times)

One example is a prized sarcophagus named for Alexander the Great, discovered in Sidon, Lebanon, in 1887, and now in Istanbul's Archaeological Museum. Suslu said the sarcophagus was legally Tur-

that treating Germany like a petty thief puts more than a century of archaeological cooperation at risk and harms relations between the countries as Turkey seeks to join the European Union. He pointed out that

seum of Fine Arts, Boston, returned the top half of an 1,800-year-old statue, "Weary Herakles," which the Turkish prime minister, Recep Tayyip Erdogan, triumphantly took home on his government jet. □